

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

H.B. No. 713

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment and operation of the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program and the Teach for Texas Grant Program; consolidating and revising financial aid, grant, and scholarship programs; and providing for the education, certification, and recruitment of teachers and faculty instructors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 56, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER M. TOWARD EXCELLENCE, ACCESS, & SUCCESS (TEXAS) GRANT PROGRAM AND TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 56.301. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) "Eligible institution" means:

(A) an institution of higher education; or

(B) a private or independent institution of higher education.

(3) "Private or independent institution of higher education," "public junior college," and "public technical institute" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

Sec. 56.302. PROGRAM NAME; PURPOSE. (a) The student financial assistance program authorized by this subchapter is known as the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program,

1 and an individual grant awarded under this subchapter is known as a
2 TEXAS grant.

3 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a grant of
4 money to enable eligible students to attend public and private
5 institutions of higher education in this state.

6 Sec. 56.303. ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM. (a) The
7 coordinating board shall administer the TEXAS grant program and
8 shall adopt any rules necessary to implement the TEXAS grant
9 program or this subchapter. The coordinating board shall consult
10 with the student financial aid officers of eligible institutions in
11 developing the rules.

12 (b) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to provide a
13 TEXAS grant to an eligible student enrolled in an eligible
14 institution in the most efficient manner possible.

15 (c) The total amount of TEXAS grants awarded may not exceed
16 the amount available for the program from appropriations, gifts,
17 grants, or other funds.

18 (d) In determining who should receive a TEXAS grant, the
19 coordinating board and the eligible institutions shall give highest
20 priority to awarding TEXAS grants to students who demonstrate the
21 greatest financial need.

22 Sec. 56.304. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT. (a) To be
23 eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person must:

24 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by
25 coordinating board rules;

26 (2) meet either of the following academic
27 requirements:

1 (A) be a graduate of a public or accredited
2 private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than
3 the 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or
4 advanced high school curriculum established under Section 28.002 or
5 28.025 or its equivalent; or

6 (B) have received an associate degree from an
7 eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2001;

8 (3) meet financial need requirements as defined by the
9 coordinating board;

10 (4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
11 certificate program at an eligible institution;

12 (5) be enrolled as:

13 (A) an entering undergraduate student for at
14 least three-fourths of a full course load for an entering
15 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, not
16 later than the 16th month after the date of the person's graduation
17 from high school; or

18 (B) an entering student for at least
19 three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as
20 determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month
21 after the month the person receives an associate degree from an
22 eligible institution;

23 (6) have applied for any available financial aid or
24 assistance; and

25 (7) comply with any additional nonacademic requirement
26 adopted by the coordinating board under this subchapter.

27 (b) A person is not eligible to receive a TEXAS grant if the

1 person has been convicted of a felony or an offense under Chapter
2 481, Health and Safety Code (Texas Controlled Substances Act), or
3 under the law of another jurisdiction involving a controlled
4 substance as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, unless
5 the person has met the other applicable eligibility requirements
6 under this subchapter and has:

7 (1) received a certificate of discharge by the Texas
8 Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility or
9 completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least
10 two years have elapsed from the date of the receipt or completion;
11 or

12 (2) been pardoned, had the record of the offense
13 expunged from the person's record, or otherwise has been released
14 from the resulting ineligibility to receive a grant under this
15 subchapter.

16 (c) A person is not eligible to receive a TEXAS grant if the
17 person has been granted a baccalaureate degree.

18 (d) A person may not receive a TEXAS grant for more than
19 150 semester credit hours or the equivalent.

20 (e) A person's eligibility for a TEXAS grant ends on the
21 sixth anniversary of the initial award of a TEXAS grant to the
22 person and the person's enrollment in an eligible institution.

23 (f) The requirement in Subsection (a)(2) that a person must
24 have completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum
25 does not apply to a person who:

26 (1) attended a public high school in a school district
27 if that district certifies to the commissioner of education that

1 the high school did not offer all the necessary courses for a
2 person to complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high
3 school curriculum; and

4 (2) completed all courses at the high school offered
5 toward the completion of the recommended or advanced high school
6 curriculum.

7 (g) Not later than March 1 of each year, the commissioner of
8 education shall provide to the coordinating board a list of all the
9 public high schools that do not offer all the courses necessary to
10 complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school
11 curriculum as described by Subsection (f)(1).

12 (h) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
13 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
14 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
15 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
16 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
17 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
18 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's
19 academic performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a
20 number of semester credit hours that is less than the number of
21 semester credit hours required under Subsection (a)(5). The
22 coordinating board may not allow a person to receive a TEXAS grant
23 while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

24 Sec. 56.305. CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
25 REQUIREMENTS. (a) After initially qualifying for a TEXAS grant, a
26 person may continue to receive a TEXAS grant during each semester
27 or term in which the person is enrolled at an eligible institution

1 only if the person:

2 (1) meets financial need requirements as defined by
3 the coordinating board;

4 (2) is enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
5 certificate program at an eligible institution;

6 (3) is enrolled for at least three-fourths of a full
7 course load for an undergraduate student, as determined by the
8 coordinating board;

9 (4) makes satisfactory academic progress toward an
10 undergraduate degree or certificate; and

11 (5) complies with any additional nonacademic
12 requirement adopted by the coordinating board.

13 (b) A person is not eligible to continue to receive a TEXAS
14 grant under this section if the person has been convicted of a
15 felony or an offense under Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code
16 (Texas Controlled Substances Act), or under the law of another
17 jurisdiction involving a controlled substance as defined by Chapter
18 481, Health and Safety Code, unless the person has met the other
19 applicable eligibility requirements under this subchapter and has:

20 (1) received a certificate of discharge by the Texas
21 Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility or
22 completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least
23 two years have elapsed from the date of the receipt or completion;
24 or

25 (2) been pardoned, had the record of the offense
26 expunged from the person's record, or otherwise has been released
27 from the resulting ineligibility to receive a grant under this

1 subchapter.

2 (c) If a person fails to meet any of the requirements of
3 Subsection (a) after the completion of any semester or term, the
4 person may not receive a TEXAS grant during the next semester or
5 term in which the person enrolls. A person may become eligible to
6 receive a TEXAS grant in a subsequent semester or term if the
7 person:

8 (1) completes a semester or term during which the
9 student is not eligible for a scholarship; and

10 (2) meets all the requirements of Subsection (a).

11 (d) A person who qualifies for and subsequently receives a
12 TEXAS grant, who receives an undergraduate certificate or associate
13 degree, and who, not later than the 12th month after the month the
14 person receives the certificate or degree, enrolls in a program
15 leading to a higher-level undergraduate degree continues to be
16 eligible for a TEXAS grant to the extent other eligibility
17 requirements are met.

18 (e) For the purpose of this section, a person makes
19 satisfactory academic progress toward an undergraduate degree or
20 certificate only if:

21 (1) in the person's first academic year the person
22 meets the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the
23 institution at which the person is enrolled; and

24 (2) in a subsequent academic year, the person:

25 (A) completes at least 75 percent of the
26 semester credit hours attempted in the student's most recent
27 academic year; and

1 (B) earns an overall grade point average of at
2 least 2.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on coursework
3 previously attempted at institutions of higher education.

4 (f) A person who is eligible to receive a TEXAS grant
5 continues to remain eligible to receive the TEXAS grant if the
6 person enrolls in or transfers to another eligible institution.

7 (g) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
8 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
9 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
10 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
11 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
12 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
13 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's
14 academic performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a
15 number of semester credit hours that is less than the number of
16 semester credit hours required under Subsection (a)(3). The
17 coordinating board may not allow a person to receive a TEXAS grant
18 while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

19 Sec. 56.306. GRANT USE. A person receiving a TEXAS grant
20 may use the money to pay any usual and customary cost of attendance
21 at an institution of higher education incurred by the student. The
22 institution may disburse all or part of the proceeds of a TEXAS
23 grant to an eligible person only if the tuition and required fees
24 incurred by the person at the institution have been paid.

25 Sec. 56.307. GRANT AMOUNT. (a) The amount of a TEXAS grant
26 for a semester or term for a person enrolled full-time at an
27 eligible institution other than an institution covered by

1 Subsection (b), (c), or (d) is the amount determined by the
2 coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition and
3 required fees that a resident student enrolled full-time in a
4 baccalaureate degree program would be charged for that semester or
5 term at general academic teaching institutions.

6 (b) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
7 full-time at a private or independent institution of higher
8 education is the amount determined by the coordinating board as the
9 average statewide amount of tuition and required fees that a
10 resident student enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree
11 program would be charged for that semester or term at general
12 academic teaching institutions.

13 (c) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
14 full-time at a public technical institute is the amount determined
15 by the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of
16 tuition and required fees that a resident student enrolled
17 full-time in an associate degree or certificate program would be
18 charged for that semester or term at public technical institutes.

19 (d) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
20 full-time at a public junior college is the amount determined by
21 the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition
22 and required fees that a student who is a resident of the junior
23 college district and is enrolled full-time in an associate degree
24 or certificate program would be charged for that semester or term
25 at public junior colleges.

26 (e) The coordinating board may adopt rules that allow the
27 coordinating board to increase or decrease, in proportion to the

1 number of semester credit hours in which a student is enrolled, the
2 amount of a TEXAS grant award under this section to a student who
3 is enrolled in a number of semester credit hours in excess of or
4 below the number of semester credit hours described in Section
5 56.304(a)(5) or 56.305(a)(3).

6 (f) The amount of a TEXAS grant may not be reduced by any
7 gift aid for which the person receiving the grant is eligible,
8 unless the total amount of a person's grant plus any gift aid
9 received exceeds the total cost of attendance at an eligible
10 institution.

11 (g) Not later than January 31 of each year, the coordinating
12 board shall publish the amounts of each grant established by the
13 board for each type of institution for the academic year beginning
14 the next fall semester.

15 (h) The total amount of grants that a student may receive in
16 an academic year under this subchapter and under Section 61.221 may
17 not exceed the maximum amount authorized under Section 61.227.

18 (i) A public institution of higher education may not:

19 (1) charge a person attending the institution who also
20 receives a TEXAS grant an amount of tuition and required fees in
21 excess of the amount of the TEXAS grant received by the person; or

22 (2) deny admission to or enrollment in the institution
23 based on a person's eligibility to receive a TEXAS grant or a
24 person's receipt of a TEXAS grant.

25 (j) An institution may use other available sources of
26 financial aid, other than a loan or a Pell grant, to cover any
27 difference in the amount of a TEXAS grant and the actual amount of

1 tuition and required fees at the institution.

2 (k) The legislature in an appropriations act shall account
3 for tuition and required fees received under this section in a way
4 that does not increase the general revenue appropriations to that
5 institution.

6 Sec. 56.308. NOTIFICATION OF PROGRAM; RESPONSIBILITIES OF
7 SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (a) The coordinating board shall distribute to
8 each eligible institution and to each school district a copy of the
9 rules adopted under this subchapter.

10 (b) Each school district shall:

11 (1) notify its middle school students, junior high
12 school students, and high school students, those students' teachers
13 and counselors, and those students' parents of the TEXAS grant and
14 Teach for Texas grant programs established under this subchapter,
15 the eligibility requirements of each program, the need for students
16 to make informed curriculum choices to be prepared for success
17 beyond high school, and sources of information on higher education
18 admissions and financial aid in a manner that assists the district
19 in implementing a strategy adopted by the district under Section
20 11.252(a)(4); and

21 (2) ensure that each student's official transcript or
22 diploma indicates whether the student has completed or is on
23 schedule to complete:

24 (A) the recommended or advanced high school
25 curriculum required for grant eligibility under Section 28.002 or
26 28.025; or

27 (B) for a school district covered by Section

1 56.304(f)(1), the required portion of the recommended or advanced
2 high school curriculum in the manner described by Section
3 56.304(f)(2).

4 (c) The information required by Subsection (b)(2) must be
5 included on a student's transcript not later than the end of the
6 student's junior year.

7 (d) In addition to the eligibility requirements of Section
8 56.304, a person who graduated from an accredited private high
9 school is eligible to receive a grant under this subchapter only if
10 the student's official transcript or diploma includes the
11 information required as provided by Subsections (b)(2)(A) and (c).

12 Sec. 56.309. TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The purpose
13 of the Teach for Texas grant program is to attract to the teaching
14 profession persons who have expressed interest in teaching and to
15 support the certification of those persons as classroom teachers.

16 (b) A Teach for Texas tuition grant is available only to a
17 person who receives a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or 56.305,
18 applies for a Teach for Texas tuition grant, and is enrolled as a
19 junior or senior in a baccalaureate degree program if:

20 (1) the degree program is in a teaching field
21 certified by the commissioner of education as experiencing a
22 critical shortage of teachers in this state in the year in which
23 the person begins the degree program; or

24 (2) the person agrees to teach in a public school in
25 this state in a community, which is not required to be specifically
26 designated at the time the person receives the grant, certified by
27 the commissioner of education as experiencing a critical shortage

1 of teachers in any year in which the person receives a grant under
2 this section or in any subsequent year in which the person fulfills
3 the teaching obligation.

4 (c) To receive a Teach for Texas tuition grant, a person
5 must agree to teach full-time for five years at the preschool,
6 primary, or secondary level in a public school in this state in the
7 person's chosen critical field or in a community experiencing a
8 critical teacher shortage, as applicable.

9 (d) The amount of a Teach for Texas tuition grant under this
10 section is equal to two times the amount of a TEXAS grant
11 authorized under Section 56.307(b) for the same semester or term.
12 A person may receive both a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or
13 56.305 and a grant under this section for the same semester or
14 term.

15 (e) The person must begin fulfilling the teaching obligation
16 of this section not later than the 18th month after the person
17 completes the degree program and any related courses required for
18 teacher certification, unless the coordinating board grants the
19 person additional time to begin fulfilling the teaching obligation.
20 The person must complete the teaching obligation not later than the
21 sixth year after the date the person begins to fulfill the teaching
22 obligation. The coordinating board shall grant a person additional
23 time to complete the teaching obligation for good cause.

24 (f) The coordinating board shall cancel a person's teaching
25 obligation if the board determines that the person:

26 (1) has become permanently disabled so that the person
27 is not able to teach; or

1 (2) has died.

2 (g) The coordinating board shall require a person who
3 receives a Teach for Texas grant under this section to sign a
4 promissory note acknowledging the conditional nature of the grant
5 and promising to repay the amount of the grant plus applicable
6 interest and reasonable collection costs if the person does not
7 satisfy the applicable conditions. The board shall determine the
8 terms of the promissory note.

9 (h) The amount required to be repaid by a person who fails
10 to complete the teaching obligation of the person's grant shall be
11 determined in proportion to the portion of the teaching obligation
12 that the person has not satisfied.

13 (i) A person receiving a Teach for Texas tuition grant is
14 considered to have failed to satisfy the conditions of the grant,
15 and the grant automatically becomes a loan, if the person fails to
16 remain enrolled in or to make steady progress in the degree program
17 for which the grant was made without good cause as determined by
18 the coordinating board or if the person fails to become certified
19 as a teacher not later than the 18th month after the date the
20 person receives a degree.

21 Sec. 56.310. FUNDING. (a) The coordinating board may
22 solicit and accept gifts and grants from any public or private
23 source for the purposes of this subchapter.

24 (b) The legislature may appropriate money for the purposes
25 of this subchapter.

26 Sec. 56.311. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. (a) The
27 Legislative Oversight Committee on the TEXAS and Teach for Texas

1 grant programs established by this subchapter is composed of six
2 members as follows:

3 (1) three members of the senate appointed by the
4 lieutenant governor; and

5 (2) three members of the house of representatives
6 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

7 (b) The committee shall:

8 (1) meet at least twice a year with the coordinating
9 board; and

10 (2) receive information regarding rules relating to
11 the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs established by this
12 subchapter that have been adopted by the coordinating board or
13 proposed for adoption by the coordinating board.

14 (c) The committee may request reports and other information
15 from the coordinating board relating to the operation of the TEXAS
16 and Teach for Texas grant programs under this subchapter by the
17 coordinating board.

18 (d) The committee shall review the specific recommendations
19 for legislation related to this subchapter that are proposed by the
20 coordinating board.

21 (e) The committee shall monitor the operation of the TEXAS
22 and Teach for Texas grant programs established under this
23 subchapter, with emphasis on the manner of the award of grants, the
24 number of grants awarded, and the educational progress made by
25 persons who have received grants under this subchapter.

26 (f) The committee shall file a report with the governor,
27 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives

1 not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year.

2 (g) The report shall include identification of any problems
3 in the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs operated under this
4 subchapter with recommended solutions for the coordinating board
5 and for legislative action.

6 SECTION 2. Section 54.5021(c), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (c) Not later than August 31 of each fiscal year, each
9 institution of higher education that has an unobligated and
10 unexpended balance in its student deposit fund that exceeds 150
11 percent of the total deposits to that fund during that year shall
12 remit to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board the amount
13 of that excess. The coordinating board shall allocate on an
14 equitable basis amounts received under this subsection to
15 institutions of higher education that do not have an excess
16 described by this subsection for deposit in their student deposit
17 fund. The amount allocated under this subsection may be used only
18 for making grants under Subchapter M, Chapter 56 [~~scholarship~~
19 ~~awards-to-needy-and-deserving-students-under-this-section~~].

20 SECTION 3. Section 56.039, Education Code, is amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 56.039. FULL USE OF FUNDS. At the end of a fiscal
23 year, if the total amount of unencumbered funds that have been set
24 aside under this subchapter by an institution of higher education,
25 together with the total amount of unencumbered funds transferred by
26 that institution to the Coordinating Board, Texas College and
27 University System, exceeds 150 percent of the amount of funds set

1 aside by that institution in that fiscal year, the institution
2 shall transfer the excess amount to the coordinating board. The
3 coordinating board shall use funds transferred under this section
4 to award grants under Subchapter M [~~scholarships-as-provided-by-law~~
5 ~~to--students--at--institutions--other--than--the--institution--that~~
6 ~~transferred-the-funds~~].

7 SECTION 4. Section 151.423, Tax Code, is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 Sec. 151.423. REIMBURSEMENT TO TAXPAYER FOR TAX COLLECTIONS.
10 A taxpayer may deduct and withhold one-half of one percent of the
11 amount of taxes due from the taxpayer on a timely return as
12 reimbursement for the cost of collecting the taxes imposed by this
13 chapter. The comptroller shall provide a card with each form
14 distributed for the collection of taxes under this chapter. The
15 card may be inserted by the taxpayer with the tax payment to
16 provide for contribution of all or part of the reimbursement
17 provided by this section for use as grants [~~student--financial~~
18 ~~assistance---grants---offered~~] under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
19 Education Code. If the taxpayer chooses to contribute the
20 reimbursement for the [~~student~~] grants, the taxpayer shall include
21 the amount of the reimbursement contribution with the tax payment.
22 The comptroller shall transfer money contributed under this section
23 for [~~student~~] grants under Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education
24 Code, to the appropriate fund.

25 SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
26 amended by adding Section 61.0776 to read as follows:

27 Sec. 61.0776. CENTER FOR FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION. (a)

The board, in cooperation with public and private or independent institutions of higher education, the Texas Education Agency, public school counselors, representatives of student financial aid offices of any institutions, regional education service centers, and the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, shall develop a center for financial aid information. The center shall disseminate information about financial aid opportunities and procedures, including information about different types of financial aid available, eligibility requirements, and procedures for applying for financial aid. The center shall also provide information to prospective students about the Teach for Texas grant program. The information must emphasize the importance of teaching as a profession.

(b) To assist the board in developing information provided by the center, the board shall create and appoint an advisory committee that consists of experts in financial aid administration, public school counselors, and other persons who can provide insight into the informational needs of students.

(c) The board may designate an institution of higher education or other entity with appropriate facilities and resources to operate or house the center.

(d) The center shall maintain a toll-free telephone line that is staffed by persons knowledgeable about financial aid information in this state.

(e) The center shall, based on the advisory committee's recommendations, publish information concerning financial aid opportunities in this state and shall:

1 (1) furnish a written copy of the information to each
2 middle school, junior high school, and high school counselor in
3 this state; and

4 (2) post the information on an Internet website
5 accessible to the public.

6 SECTION 6. Section 11.252(a), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) Each school district shall have a district improvement
9 plan that is developed, evaluated, and revised annually, in
10 accordance with district policy, by the superintendent with the
11 assistance of the district-level committee established under
12 Section 11.251. The purpose of the district improvement plan is to
13 guide district and campus staff in the improvement of student
14 performance for all student groups in order to attain state
15 standards in respect to the academic excellence indicators adopted
16 under Section 39.051. The district improvement plan must include
17 provisions for:

18 (1) a comprehensive needs assessment addressing
19 district student performance on the academic excellence indicators,
20 and other appropriate measures of performance, that are
21 disaggregated by all student groups served by the district,
22 including categories of ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sex, and
23 populations served by special programs;

24 (2) measurable district performance objectives for all
25 appropriate academic excellence indicators for all student
26 populations, appropriate objectives for special needs populations,
27 and other measures of student performance that may be identified

1 through the comprehensive needs assessment;

2 (3) strategies for improvement of student performance
3 that include:

4 (A) instructional methods for addressing the
5 needs of student groups not achieving their full potential;

6 (B) methods for addressing the needs of students
7 for special programs, such as suicide prevention, conflict
8 resolution, violence prevention, or dyslexia treatment programs;

9 (C) dropout reduction;

10 (D) integration of technology in instructional
11 and administrative programs;

12 (E) discipline management;

13 (F) staff development for professional staff of
14 the district;

15 (G) career education to assist students in
16 developing the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for a
17 broad range of career opportunities; and

18 (H) accelerated education;

19 (4) strategies for providing to middle school, junior
20 high school, and high school students, those students' teachers
21 and counselors, and those students' parents information about:

22 (A) higher education admissions and financial
23 aid opportunities;

24 (B) the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for
25 Texas grant program established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56;

26 (C) the need for students to make informed
27 curriculum choices to be prepared for success beyond high school;

1 and

2 (D) sources of information on higher education
3 admissions and financial aid;

4 (5) resources needed to implement identified
5 strategies;

6 (6) [†5] staff responsible for ensuring the
7 accomplishment of each strategy;

8 (7) [†6] timelines for ongoing monitoring of the
9 implementation of each improvement strategy; and

10 (8) [†7] formative evaluation criteria for
11 determining periodically whether strategies are resulting in
12 intended improvement of student performance.

13 SECTION 7. Section 21.004, Education Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 Sec. 21.004. TEACHER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM. (a) To the
16 extent that funds are available, the [The] agency, the State Board
17 for Educator Certification, and the Texas Higher Education
18 Coordinating Board shall develop and implement programs [a-program]
19 to identify talented students and recruit those students and
20 persons, including high school and undergraduate students,
21 mid-career and retired professionals, honorably discharged and
22 retired military personnel, and members of underrepresented gender
23 and ethnic groups, [these--students-for-entry] into the teaching
24 profession.

25 (b) From available funds, the agency, the State Board for
26 Educator Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
27 Board shall develop and distribute materials that emphasize the

importance of the teaching profession and inform individuals about state-funded loan forgiveness and tuition assistance programs [~~The recruitment-program-must-include-a-technology-program-suitable--for presentation-on-campus-at-high-schools-and-institutions-of-higher education-in-this-state~~].

(c) [~~The--Texas--Higher--Education--Coordinating-Board-shall cooperate-with--and--assist--the--agency--in--the--development--and implementation-of-the-recruitment-program-~~

[~~d~~] The commissioner, in cooperation with the commissioner of higher education and the executive director of the State Board for Educator Certification, shall annually [~~may--coordinate--and administer--a--comprehensive--program--to~~] identify the need for teachers in specific subject areas and geographic regions and among [~~to-encourage-members-of~~] underrepresented groups [~~to--enter--the teaching-profession.--In-coordinating-the-program, the-commissioner shall--consider--the--efforts--of--existing-programs-for-recruiting minorities-into-the-teaching-profession~~]. The commissioner shall give priority to developing and implementing recruitment programs to address those needs [~~this--program~~] from the agency's discretionary funds.

(d) [~~e~~]--~~The--commissioner--may-implement-a-plan-to-identify talented-secondary-school-students--and--to--attract--them--to--the teaching--profession,--In--cooperation--with-the-commissioner, the principal-of-each-high-school-shall-appoint-a-volunteer-teacher--as the--teacher--recruiting--officer--for--the--school--to--assist--in providing--information--about-the-merits-of-the-teaching-profession and-in-identifying-and--encouraging--talented--students--to--become~~

1 teachers.---The-commissioner-may-sponsor-a-meeting-in-each-regional
2 education-service-center-region-of-the-teacher-recruiting--officers
3 from--each--high--school--in--that-area-to-provide-the-officers-the
4 opportunity-to-share-information-and-materials--about--the--teacher
5 recruitment-program-

6 [†f] The agency, the State Board for Educator
7 Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
8 [commissioner] shall encourage the business community to cooperate
9 with local schools to develop recruiting programs designed to
10 attract and retain capable teachers, including programs to
11 provide[---The-commissioner-shall-encourage-the-business--community
12 to-provide] summer employment opportunities for teachers.

13 (e) [†g] The agency, the State Board for Educator
14 Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
15 [commissioner] shall encourage major education associations to
16 cooperate in developing a long-range program promoting teaching as
17 a career and to assist in identifying local activities and
18 resources that may be used to promote the teaching profession.

19 (f) [†h] Funds received for [the] teacher recruitment
20 programs [program] may be used only to publicize and implement the
21 programs [program].

22 SECTION 8. Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding
23 Subchapter K to read as follows:

24 SUBCHAPTER K. TEACH FOR TEXAS PILOT PROGRAM RELATING TO
25 ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

26 Sec. 21.501. PURPOSES. The purposes of the alternative
27 certification Teach for Texas Pilot Program are to:

1 (1) attract to the teaching profession persons who
2 have expressed interest in teaching and to support the
3 certification of those persons as teachers;

4 (2) recognize the importance of the certification
5 process governed by the State Board for Educator Certification
6 under Subchapter B, which requires verification of competence in
7 subject area and professional knowledge and skills;

8 (3) encourage the creation and expansion of educator
9 preparation programs that recognize the knowledge and skills gained
10 through previous educational and work-related experiences and that
11 are delivered in a manner that recognizes individual circumstances,
12 including the need to remain employed full-time while enrolled in
13 the Teach for Texas Pilot Program; and

14 (4) provide annual stipends to postbaccalaureate
15 teacher certification candidates.

16 Sec. 21.502. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED. The State Board for
17 Educator Certification by rule shall establish the Teach for Texas
18 Pilot Program consistent with the purposes provided by Section
19 21.501.

20 Sec. 21.503. FINANCIAL INCENTIVES. (a) The pilot program
21 must offer to participants financial incentives, including tuition
22 assistance and loan forgiveness. In offering a financial
23 incentive, the State Board for Educator Certification shall:

24 (1) require a contract between each participant who
25 accepts a financial incentive and the State Board for Educator
26 Certification under which the participant is obligated to teach in
27 a public school in this state for a stated period after

1 certification;

2 (2) provide financial incentives in proportion to the
3 length of the period the participant is obligated by contract to
4 teach after certification; and

5 (3) give special financial incentives to a participant
6 who agrees in the contract to teach in an underserved area.

7 (b) Financial incentives may be paid only from funds
8 appropriated specifically for that purpose and from gifts, grants,
9 and donations solicited or accepted by the State Board for Educator
10 Certification for that purpose.

11 (c) The State Board for Educator Certification shall
12 propose rules establishing criteria for awarding financial
13 incentives under this section, including criteria for awarding
14 financial incentives if there are more participants than funds
15 available to provide the financial incentives.

16 SECTION 9. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
17 amended by adding Section 61.0514 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 61.0514. INTEGRATED COURSEWORK. The board, with the
19 cooperation and advice of the State Board for Educator
20 Certification, shall adopt educator preparation coursework
21 guidelines that promote, to the greatest extent practicable, the
22 integration of subject matter knowledge with classroom teaching
23 strategies and techniques in order to maximize the effectiveness
24 and efficiency of coursework required for certification under
25 Subchapter B, Chapter 21.

26 SECTION 10. Subchapter M, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
27 amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER M. REPAYMENT OF CERTAIN
TEACHER AND FACULTY EDUCATION LOANS

Sec. 61.701. REPAYMENT AUTHORIZED. The [~~coordinating~~] board may provide, in accordance with this subchapter and board rules, assistance in the repayment of student loans for persons [~~teachers~~] who apply and qualify for the assistance.

Sec. 61.702. ELIGIBILITY. [~~a~~] To be eligible to receive repayment assistance, a person [~~teacher~~] must[~~:~~

[~~+~~] apply to the [~~coordinating~~] board[~~:~~] and must have:

(1) [~~+~~] completed at least one year of employment as and be employed as a full-time classroom teacher in the elementary or secondary schools of this state in an area or field of acute teacher shortage as designated by the State Board of Education; or

(2) received a doctoral degree not earlier than September 1, 1994, from a public or private institution of higher education accredited as required by the board and be employed as a full-time faculty member with instructional duties in an institution of higher education located in a county that borders the United Mexican States.

[~~(b)---The---coordinating---board---may---provide---by---rule---for repayment---assistance---on---a---pro---rata-basis-for-teachers-employed part-time-in-an-elementary-or-secondary-school-of-this-state-in--an area--or-field-of-acute-teacher-shortage-as-designated-by-the-State Board-of-Education--]~~

Sec. 61.703. LIMITATION. A person [~~teacher~~] may not receive

1 repayment assistance grants for more than 10 [~~five~~] years.

2 Sec. 61.704. ELIGIBLE LOANS. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board
3 may provide repayment assistance for the repayment of any student
4 loan for education at a public or private [~~an~~] institution of
5 higher education, including loans for undergraduate and graduate
6 education, received by a person [~~teacher~~] through any lender.

7 (b) The [~~coordinating~~] board may not provide repayment
8 assistance for a student loan that is in default at the time of the
9 person's [~~teacher's~~] application.

10 Sec. 61.705. REPAYMENT. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall
11 deliver any repayment made under this subchapter in a lump sum
12 payable to the lender and the person [~~teacher~~], in accordance with
13 federal law.

14 (b) A repayment made under this subchapter may be applied to
15 the principal amount of the loan and to interest that accrues.

16 (c) The minimum amount of repayment assistance that may be
17 received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(2) is
18 50 percent of the amount of principal and accrued interest that is
19 due that year.

20 Sec. 61.706. ADVISORY COMMITTEES. The [~~coordinating~~] board
21 may appoint advisory committees from outside the board's membership
22 to assist the board in performing its duties under this subchapter.

23 Sec. 61.707. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS. The [~~coordinating~~] board
24 may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations for the
25 purposes of this subchapter.

26 Sec. 61.708. RULES. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall
27 adopt rules necessary for the administration of this subchapter,

including:

(1) a rule that sets a minimum or maximum amount of repayment assistance that may be received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(1); and

(2) a rule that sets a maximum amount of repayment assistance that may be received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(2) [teacher-in-one-year].

(b) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall distribute a copy of the rules adopted under this section and pertinent information in this subchapter to:

(1) each institution of higher education that offers a teacher education program;

(2) the personnel office at each institution of higher education located in a county that borders the United Mexican States;

(3) any other appropriate state agency; and

(4) [~~3~~] any appropriate professional association.

SECTION 11. (a) This section may be cited as the Steven Gonzales-Prisoner of War Higher Education Act.

(b) Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.219 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.219. PRISONERS OF WAR. (a) In this section, "tuition and required fees" includes tuition, service fees, lab fees, building use fees, and all other required fees except room, board, or clothing fees or deposits in the nature of security for the return or proper care of property.

(b) For each semester or summer session and for a total

1 number of semester credit hours not to exceed 120, the governing
2 body of each institution of higher education shall exempt from the
3 payment of tuition and required fees any person who:

4 (1) is a resident of Texas and was a resident of Texas
5 at the time of the person's original entry into the United States
6 armed forces;

7 (2) was first classified as a prisoner of war by the
8 United States Department of Defense on or after January 1, 1999;
9 and

10 (3) is enrolled for at least 12 semester credit hours.

11 (c) For each semester or session in which a person receives
12 an exemption from tuition and required fees under Subsection (b),
13 the governing body of the institution the person attends shall
14 exempt the person from the payment of fees and charges for lodging
15 and board if the person resides on the campus of the institution.
16 If the person does not reside on the campus of the institution, the
17 institution shall provide to the person a reasonable stipend to
18 cover the costs of the person's lodging and board.

19 (d) For each semester or session in which a person receives
20 an exemption from tuition and required fees under Subsection (b),
21 the governing body of the institution the person attends shall
22 award to the person a scholarship to cover the costs of books and
23 similar educational materials required for course work at the
24 institution.

25 (e) An institution may use any available revenue, including
26 legislative appropriations, and shall solicit and accept gifts,
27 grants, and donations for the purposes of this section. The

1 institution shall use gifts, grants, and donations received for the
2 purposes of this section before using any other revenue.

3 (c) This section applies beginning with the 1999 fall
4 semester.

5 SECTION 12. Sections 54.215 and 54.216, Education Code, are
6 repealed.

7 SECTION 13. Subchapters F and G, Chapter 56, Education Code,
8 are repealed effective June 1, 1999.

9 SECTION 14. Any money appropriated to or collected for a
10 program abolished under Section 12 or 13 of this Act or that exists
11 in any account to support a program abolished under Section 12 or
12 13 of this Act, including the Texas New Horizons Scholarship Trust
13 Fund, is transferred to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
14 Board for use in the TEXAS Grant Program.

15 SECTION 15. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
16 Board shall review and study the laws relating to student financial
17 aid, grant, and scholarship programs and tuition and fee waivers or
18 exemptions. The study shall describe improvements that may be made
19 to existing programs to maximize the benefit of the programs to the
20 state and its students and shall include recommendations for
21 legislative or administrative action that may be taken to
22 consolidate, expand, or otherwise modify existing programs or
23 create new programs.

24 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
25 report its activities and findings to the governor, the lieutenant
26 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
27 presiding officer of each legislative committee charged with the

oversight of higher education institutions not later than December 1, 2000.

SECTION 16. A person receiving a scholarship or other financial assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216, Education Code, or Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, on the effective date of this Act may continue to receive a scholarship or other financial assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216 or under Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, as applicable to the person on the effective date, until the person is no longer eligible for the scholarship or other assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216, Education Code, or Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, as the applicable section or subchapter exists on January 1, 1999. The costs of the scholarships or other financial assistance authorized under this section shall be covered by the TEXAS grant program established by Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 17. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in conjunction with the commissioner of education, shall conduct a study relating to the performance of students at institutions of higher education as that performance relates to whether a student completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum.

(b) The board shall include in the study consideration of:

(1) the number of schools that offered all or part of the recommended or advanced high school curriculum;

(2) the types and number of students who completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum; and

1 (3) the effect, if any, of the method that a school
2 district uses to present or deliver any portion of the recommended
3 or advanced high school curriculum to its students.

4 (c) Not later than January 1, 2003, the board shall issue a
5 final report describing the findings of the study conducted under
6 this section and any recommendations for legislation or
7 administrative action to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker
8 of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of each
9 legislative committee charged with the oversight of primary and
10 secondary education or higher education, and the legislative
11 oversight committee established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
12 Education Code, as added by this Act. The board may issue
13 preliminary reports related to the study at any time.

14 (d) This section expires January 2, 2003.

15 SECTION 18. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
16 Board shall review and study the effect of the TEXAS grant program
17 and the Teach for Texas grant program established by Subchapter M,
18 Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act, on enrollments at
19 institutions of higher education. The study shall determine
20 whether there have been shifts in enrollments between universities
21 and community colleges and whether those shifts were caused by the
22 different grant amounts awarded to students at each institution.
23 The report shall make recommendations for legislative changes to
24 the methodology for calculating the amount of the grant awards, if
25 needed.

26 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
27 report its findings to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the

1 speaker of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of
2 each legislative committee with oversight responsibilities for
3 higher education institutions, and the legislative oversight
4 committee established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education
5 Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 1, 2000.

6 SECTION 19. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
7 Board and the eligible institutions of higher education shall award
8 scholarships under the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for Texas
9 grant program established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
10 Education Code, as added by this Act, beginning with the 1999 fall
11 semester.

12 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
13 adopt the initial rules for awarding grants under the TEXAS grant
14 program and the Teach for Texas grant program established under
15 Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act, not
16 later than July 31, 1999.

17 (c) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may award
18 a grant under the Teach for Texas Grant Program to a person who has
19 not received a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or 56.305,
20 Education Code, as added by this Act, if the person meets all the
21 other qualifications for the award of a Teach for Texas tuition
22 grant under Section 56.309, Education Code, as added by this Act,
23 and the requirements for a TEXAS grant under Sections 56.304 and
24 56.305, Education Code, except for requirements of Sections
25 56.304(a)(2) and (5), Education Code, as added by this Act. This
26 subsection expires September 1, 2001.

27 SECTION 20. The commissioner of education shall provide to

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1 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board a list of all of the
2 public high schools that do not offer all the courses necessary to
3 complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school
4 curriculum or its equivalent as required by Section 56.304(f)(1),
5 Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than July 31, 1999.

6 SECTION 21. The importance of this legislation and the
7 crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an
8 emergency and an imperative public necessity that the
9 constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several
10 days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended,
11 and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its
12 passage, and it is so enacted.

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HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 56, Education Code, by adding Subchapter M. Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program.

Sec. 56.301. Defines "coordinating board," "eligible institution," and "private or independent institution of education." Refers to other institutional definitions given in the code.

Sec. 56.302. Names the program as the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program and individual awards as Texas Gateway grants; states that the purpose of the program is to provide a grant to enable eligible students to attend public and private institutions of higher education in this state.

Sec. 56.303. (a) Requires the coordinating board to administer the program, adopt implementation rules, and consult with student financial aid officers in developing rules.

(b) Requires the board to adopt rules for providing grants in most efficient manner possible.

(c) Limits the amount of grants that may be awarded.

(d) Requires the board and eligible institutions to give priority to students with greatest financial need.

Sec. 56.304. (a)(1) Provides that, to be eligible initially for a Texas Gateway grant, a person must be a resident of this state

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 56, Education Code, by adding Subchapter M. Texas Hope Grant Program and Teach for Texas Grant Program.

Sec. 56.301. Same as House version.

Sec. 56.302. Same as House version, except names two programs as the Texas Hope Grant Program (THGP) and the Teach for Texas Grant Program (TTGP); states that the purpose of the program is to enable *qualified* students to attend public and private institutions of higher education in this state; makes conforming changes.

Sec. 56.303. (a) Same as House version, except that it refers to THGP and TTGP; deletes requirement that the board consult with student financial aid officers.

(b) Substantially the same as House version.

(c) Same as House version, except for program name.

(d) Same as House version, except for grant name; deletes reference to eligible institutions.

Sec. 56.304. (a)(1) Same as House version.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 56, Education Code, by adding Subchapter M. Toward Excellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) Grant Program and Teach for Texas Grant Program.

Sec. 56.301. Same as House version.

Sec. 56.302. Same as House version, except names the program as the Toward Excellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program and individual awards as TEXAS grants.

Sec. 56.303. (a) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TEXAS program (TP).

(b) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TP.

(c) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TP.

(d) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TP.

Sec. 56.304. (a)(1) Same as House version.

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as determined by coordinating board rules.

(a)(2) Provides that a person must meet either of the following academic requirements: (A) be a graduate of a public high school in this state or a private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum established under Section 28.025 or an equivalent curriculum recognized by the State Board of Education; or (B) have received an associate degree from an eligible institution not earlier than the 1998-1999 academic year.

(a)(3) Provides that a person must meet financial need requirements as defined by the coordinating board.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(4) Provides that a person must be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible institution.

(a)(5) Requires that, if the person does not meet the academic requirement provided by Subdivision (2)(B), the person must enroll for at least one-half of a full course load as a first-time entering undergraduate student in an undergraduate degree or certificate program.

No equivalent provision.

SENATE VERSION

(a)(2) Same as House version, except removes graduation from a *private* high school, "an equivalent curriculum recognized by the State Board of Education," and "an associate degree from an eligible institution" as eligibility criteria.

(a)(3) Same as House version.

(a)(4) Requires that a person be from a low-income or middle-income family, as determined by the coordinating board.

(a)(5) Same as House version.

(a)(6) Requires that a person must enroll for at least three-fourths of a full course load as an entering freshman in an undergraduate degree or certificate program not later than the 16th month after the month of the person's graduation from a high school in this state.

No equivalent provision.

CONFERENCE

(a)(2) Same as House version, except that in (A) it requires that a recipient must be a graduate of a public or *accredited* private high school and in (B) it requires that a recipient have received an associate degree from an eligible institution *not earlier than May 1, 2001*.

(a)(3) Same as House version.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(4) Same as House version.

(a)(5)(A) Substantially the same as Senate version, except deletes reference to a *certificate program* and adds that undergraduate course load is to be determined by the coordinating board.

(a)(5)(B) Provides that a person must be enrolled as an entering student for at least three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month after the month the person receives

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CONFERENCE

No equivalent provision.

an associate degree from an eligible institution.

(a)(7) Requires that a person have applied for any available financial aid or assistance.

(a)(6) Same as Senate version.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(8) Requires that a person comply with any other requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this chapter.

(a)(7) Same as Senate version, except specifies compliance with any *additional nonacademic* requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this chapter.

(b) Makes any person with a bachelor's degree ineligible for a Gateway grant.

(b) Same as House version, except refers to THGP.

(c) Same as House version, except refers to TP.

(c) Prohibits award of Gateway grants for more than 150 credit hours.

(c) Same as House version, except refers to THGP.

(d) Same as House version, except refers to TP.

(d) Authorizes a person to complete the advanced high school curriculum by attending classes at the student's high school or by a distance learning program.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

(e) Provides an exception for students who attended a school that the commissioner of education certifies does not offer all necessary courses to complete the required curricula but who completed all of the courses the school offers that count toward completion of either the recommended or advanced curriculum.

SECTION 13 is substantially the same as House version Section 56.304(e), except that it expires September 1, 2001.

(f) Same as House version, except refers to a *public* high school *in a school district* if that district certifies to the commissioner that the school did not offer the necessary courses; deletes reference to course equivalents.

(f) Requires the commissioner of education to certify to the coordinating board a list of public high schools not offering all of the necessary courses to complete either curriculum.

No equivalent provision.

(g) Same as House version, except requires the commissioner to *provide* the list to the coordinating board.

No equivalent provision.

(d) Provides that a person's eligibility for a THGP grant ends on the sixth anniversary of the person's initial enrollment in an eligible institution.

(e) Same as Senate version, except refers to a TP grant; specifies that the term of eligibility begins with the *initial award to the person* and the person's enrollment.

(e) Makes a person convicted of a felony, a crime involving moral turpitude, or a crime involving a controlled substance ineligible, unless the person meets other eligibility requirements,

(b) Substantially the same as Senate version, except omits crimes of moral turpitude.

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No equivalent provision.

has been discharged or has completed a period of probation and at least two years have elapsed, or has been pardoned, had the record expunged, or is released from ineligibility.

No equivalent provision.

(h) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules to allow an otherwise eligible person to receive a TP grant while enrolled in a reduced number of semester credit hours because of a hardship or other good cause, such as a severe illness or responsibility for taking care of a sick or needy person. Prohibits the coordinating board from allowing a person to receive a TP grant while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

Sec. 56.305. (a) Establishes continuing eligibility and academic performance requirements, including continuing financial need, enrollment in a required program of an eligible institution, enrollment with at least one-half of a full course load, and satisfactory progress.

Sec. 56.305. (a) Same as House version, except requirements include enrollment for at least three-fourths of a full course load and compliance with any other requirements adopted by the coordinating board.

Sec. 56.305. (a) Same as Senate version, except provides that the coordinating board determines the full course load for an undergraduate student; requires compliance with "additional nonacademic" requirements instead of other "requirements"; refers to TP grant instead of THGP grant.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

(b) Substantially the same as House version.

(b) Makes a person ineligible to continue receiving a grant if the person is convicted of the felony offenses that make the person ineligible for an initial grant as specified in Section 56.304(b).
(c) Substantially the same as House version, except refers to TP grant.
(d) Substantially the same as House version, except refers to TP grant.

(b) Provides that failure to meet any requirement results in loss of eligibility for the next semester or term, but allows for resumption of eligibility.

(c) Provides continuing eligibility for certain undergraduate recipients who receive an associate degree or undergraduate certificate and who subsequently enroll in a program leading to

No equivalent provision.

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a higher-level undergraduate degree.

(d)(1) Establishes that a person makes satisfactory academic progress toward an undergraduate degree or certificate only if in the person's first academic year the person has met the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the institution at which the person is enrolled.

(d)(2) Establishes that a person makes satisfactory progress in a subsequent academic year if: (A) the person completed at least 80 percent of the semester credit hours attempted in the student's most recent academic year; and (B) has earned an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4-point scale or the equivalent on course work previously attempted at institutions of higher education.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.306. (a) Allows a person to use a grant to pay any usual and customary costs of attendance. (b) Allows an institution to disburse grant proceeds to a person only if the person's tuition and fees have been paid.
No equivalent provision.

SENATE VERSION

No equivalent provision.

(c) Establishes that a person makes satisfactory academic progress if the person: (1) completed at least nine semester credit hours or 75 percent of a full course load in the person's most recent semester or term; and (2) has earned an overall GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4-point scale or the equivalent on course work previously attempted at institutions of higher education.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.306. (a) Substantially the same as House version Sections 56.306(a) and (b), except the student must either be a first semester college student or have maintained a 3.0 or greater GPA.
(b) Requires a person to use a grant to pay for tuition, fees, or textbooks if the student maintains a GPA of 2.5 or greater but less than 3.0.

CONFERENCE

(e)(1) Same as House version.

(e)(2) Same as Senate version, except deletes the requirement that a person have completed at least nine semester credit hours.

(f) Provides that an eligible person remains eligible for a grant if the person transfers to another institution.

(g) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules to allow an otherwise eligible person to receive a grant while enrolled for fewer than the required number of credit hours in the event of certain hardships or good cause, including severe illness or certain family obligations.

Sec. 56.306. Substantially the same as House version, except refers to TP.

No equivalent provision.

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Sec. 56.307. (a) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a public college or university as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in a bachelor's degree program for a semester or term at general academic institutions.	Sec. 56.307. (a) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	Sec. 56.307. (a) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(b) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a private or independent college or university as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in a bachelor's degree program for a semester or term at general academic institutions.	(b) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	(b) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(c) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a public technical institute as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in an associate degree or certificate program for a semester or term at public technical institutions.	(c) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	(c) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(d) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a public junior college as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in a bachelor's degree program for a semester or term at public junior colleges.	(d) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	(d) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	
(e) Provides that the amount of a grant for a part-time student is a pro rata share of the average statewide amount.	No equivalent provision.	(e) Authorizes the coordinating board to adopt rules allowing the board to proportionally increase or decrease a student's grant award based on the number of credit hours above or below a specified load. No equivalent provision.

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(f) Prohibits reduction of a grant amount because of any gift aid for which the student is eligible, unless the total of the grant and any gift received exceeds the recipient's attendance costs.	(e) Substantially the same as House version.	(f) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(g) Requires the coordinating board to publish, by January 1 of each year, the amount of each grant for each type of institution for the following academic year.	(f) Substantially the same as House version, except the latest publication date is changed to January 31; specifies that amounts are for the academic year beginning the next fall semester.	(g) Substantially the same as Senate version.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	(h) Limits the total amount of awards a student may receive under certain provisions in an academic year to not more than 50 percent of the amount appropriated for a full-time student.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	(i) Prohibits a public institution from charging a grant recipient tuition and fees above the grant amount or denying admission based on the person's eligibility.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	(j) Allows an institution to use other sources of financial aid other than loans or Pell grants to cover the difference between the TP grant and the actual tuition and fees required.
		(k) Requires the legislature's appropriations act to account for tuition and fees received under this section in a way that does not increase an institution's appropriation.
Sec. 56.308. (a) Requires the coordinating board to distribute a copy of its program rules to each eligible institution and to each school district.	Sec. 56.308. (a) Substantially the same as House version.	Sec. 56.308. (a) Same as House version.
(b) Requires each school district to notify its students from middle school through high school and their parents of the program and its eligibility requirements in a manner that assists the district in implementing certain student performance improvement strategies. Requires each district to ensure that student transcripts or diplomas indicate completion of either recommended or advanced high school curriculum or, if a	(b) Substantially the same as House version, except it does not specify grade level of students to be notified, does not require notification of parents, does not set out requirements for the manner in which notice is to be given, and does not address districts that do not offer all of the courses required for completion of the recommended or advanced curriculum.	(b) Substantially the same as House version, except requires notification of students' teachers and counselors; expands scope of notification content to include information about the Teach for Texas program, the need to make informed curriculum choices, and sources of information on higher education admissions and financial aid; makes conforming changes; refers to TP.

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HOUSE VERSION

district does not offer every course required by a curriculum, the proportion of the curriculum completed.

(c) Requires inclusion of specified information on a student's transcript by the end of the student's junior year.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.309. Authorizes the coordinating board to *solicit and accept* gifts and grants from any source for purposes of this subchapter.

No equivalent provision.

SENATE VERSION

(c) Substantially the same as House version.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.310. Same as House version, except authorizes the coordinating board only to *accept* gifts and grants; allows the legislature to appropriate funds for the program.

No equivalent provision.

CONFERENCE

(c) Substantially the same as House version.

(d) Provides that a graduate of an accredited private high school is eligible only if the student's official transcript or diploma includes specified information.

Sec. 56.310. Same as Senate version, except restores authority for coordinating board to *solicit* gifts and grants.

Sec. 56.311. (a) Creates a legislative oversight committee; specifies composition. (b) Sets forth meeting requirements. (c) Authorizes the committee to request reports and information from the coordinating board. (d) Requires committee review of legislative recommendations proposed by the board. (e) Requires committee monitoring of program operation, with emphasis on manner of award of grants, number awarded, and educational progress of recipients. (f) Sets forth committee reporting requirements. (g) Requires committee report to include identification of any problem with recommended solutions for the board and legislature.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 54.064(a), Education Code, to specify that certain exemptions from out-of-state tuition and fees for nonresident scholarship students apply to students attending school on competitive academic scholarships. Adds Subsection (c) to provide an exemption to Subsection (a) for student athletes who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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HOUSE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE
SECTION 2. Amends Section 54.5021(c), Education Code, to make a conforming change.	SECTION 3. Substantially the same as House version.	SECTION 2. Same as House version.
No equivalent provision.	SECTION 4. Amends Section 56.033(a), Education Code, to require governing boards of public colleges and universities and of the Texas State Technical College System to set aside certain percentages of resident and nonresident students' tuition and fees for the Texas Public Education Grants Program.	No equivalent provision.
No equivalent provision.	SECTION 5. Adds Section 56.0331, Education Code, to provide temporary rates for certain of the amounts to be set aside for the Texas Public Education Grants Program. The section expires September 1, 2003.	No equivalent provision.
SECTION 3. Amends Section 56.039, Education Code, to make a conforming change.	SECTION 6. Same as House version.	SECTION 3. Same as House version.
SECTION 4. Adds Section 61.0776, Education Code. (a) Requires the coordinating board and the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, in cooperation with colleges and universities, public school counselors, representatives of student financial aid offices, and regional education service centers to develop a center for financial aid information to disseminate information about opportunities, procedures, availability, and eligibility.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 5. Adds Section 61.0776, Education Code. (a) Same as House version, except includes the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation as a consulting entity rather than as a principal subject of the requirement with the coordinating board; adds the Texas Education Agency to the list of consulting entities; and requires the center to provide information about the Teach for Texas grant program and to emphasize the importance of teaching as a profession.
(b) Requires the agencies to appoint an advisory committee.	No equivalent provision.	(b) Same as House version, except omits reference to the Texas Student Loan Corporation.
(c) Authorizes the agencies to appoint an institution to house the	No equivalent provision.	(c) Same as House version, except omits the corporation.

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HOUSE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE
center.		
(d) Requires the center to maintain a toll-free telephone line.	No equivalent provision.	(d) Same as House version.
(e) Requires the center, based on the advisory committee's recommendations, to publish information concerning financial aid opportunities and specifies distribution requirements.	No equivalent provision.	(e) Same as House version.
SECTION 5. Amends Section 11.252(a), Education Code, to require that school district improvement plans include strategies to provide students in middle school through high school with information about higher education admissions and financial aid opportunities, the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program, and the need to make informed curriculum choices.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 6. Same as House version, except requires that information strategies also target teachers, counselors, and parents and adds to the list information about the Teach for Texas grant program and about sources of information on higher education and financial aid; changes THGP to TP.
SECTION 6. Amends Section 21.451(a), Education Code, to require that minimum standards for staff development include guidelines for cooperation of principals, counselors, and teachers in providing information about higher education to students and parents. Requires staff development to address how to incorporate information about college admissions and financial aid opportunities into the curriculum, the importance of making informed curriculum choices, and sources of information on admissions and financial aid.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
SECTION 7. Amends Section 28.002, Education Code, to allow school districts to offer courses required for completion of the recommended or advanced curriculum by distance learning, provided no more than 10 percent of a curriculum is completed via distance learning programs.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.

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SECTION 8. Amends Chapter 21, Education Code, by adding Subchapter K. Teach for Texas Program, as follows:

Sec. 21.501. Sets out purposes of the program.

Sec. 21.502. Defines "board" and "program."

Sec. 21.503. Requires the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to propose implementation rules, provides a two-tier structure for the program, and requires the SBEC to propose requirements for alternative certification.

Sec. 21.504. Requires the program to offer certain financial incentives in return for a recipient's entering into a contractual obligation to teach in a public school for a stated period after certification or special incentives to teach in an underserved area. Provides for paying incentives from appropriated funds and solicited gifts, grants, and donations. Requires the SBEC to establish criteria for awarding financial incentives.

Sec. 21.505. Requires the SBEC, with other state agencies, to conduct a recruitment and retention campaign to promote the program. Requires that the campaign emphasize certain information.

SENATE VERSION

Sec. 56.309. (a) Makes a Teach for Texas tuition grant available only to a person who receives a Texas Hope grant, applies for a grant, and enrolls as a junior or senior in a bachelor's degree program if the program is in a teaching field where the commissioner of education certifies there is a teacher shortage or if the person agrees to teach in a public school in a community certified by the commissioner as having a teacher shortage.

(b) Requires a person to agree to teach full-time for five years in a public school in the field or community where the shortage exists to be eligible for a Teach for Texas grant.

(c) Provides that a Teach for Texas grant amount is double the amount of certain Hope grants; authorizes a person to receive both grants.

(d) Requires grant recipients to begin teaching and to fulfill the teaching obligation within specified time frames, unless the coordinating board grants an extension.

(e) Requires the coordinating board to cancel an obligation for a disability or death.

(f) Establishes a requirement for a grant recipient to sign a promissory note acknowledging the conditional nature of the grant and promising to repay the amount plus interest and fees for failure to satisfy the conditions.

(g) Provides for a proportional repayment of the above amount based on the amount of the obligation fulfilled.

(h) Establishes criteria for determining failure to satisfy conditions of a grant and treatment of the grant as a loan.

No equivalent provision.

CONFERENCE

Sec. 56.309. Substantially the same as Senate version, except that (a) establishes that the purpose of the Teach for Texas grant program (TTGP) is to attract interested persons to the teaching profession and to support their certification as teachers; rennumbers subsequent sections; refers to TP instead of THGP.

SECTION 9. Amends Section 21.004, Education Code, as follows:

SECTION 7. Amends Section 21.004, Education Code, as follows:

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HOUSE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE
(a) Requires SBEC and coordinating board involvement in developing and implementing a teacher recruitment program targeting high school and undergraduate students, mid-career and retired professionals, retired military personnel, and members of underrepresented gender and ethnic groups.	No equivalent provision.	(a) Same as House version, except makes the requirement contingent on the availability of funds.
(b) Requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the SBEC, and the coordinating board to develop and distribute materials promoting the teaching profession and relevant state financial aid program opportunities; deletes a requirement that the program include a technology program.	No equivalent provision.	(b) Substantially the same as House version, except specifies that the requirement be carried out with available funds rather than with funds appropriated for the programs.
(c) Requires the coordinating board to encourage colleges and universities to incorporate into their core curricula a teacher recruitment course; makes a conforming change.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
(d) Requires the commissioner, in cooperation with the commissioner of higher education and the executive director of the SBEC, annually to identify teacher needs in subject areas, in geographic regions, and among underrepresented groups and to develop recruitment programs to address those needs; deletes a requirement that the commissioner consider the efforts of existing programs.	No equivalent provision.	(c) Same as House version.
(e) Requires the TEA, the SBEC, and the coordinating board to encourage business community-school cooperation in developing teacher recruitment programs and summer jobs for teachers; requires that the programs include programs to provide summer employment opportunities for teachers. Deletes a provision authorizing the commissioner to implement	No equivalent provision.	(d) Same as House version.

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HOUSE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE
a plan to attract talented secondary school students to the teaching profession.		
(f) Requires the TEA, the SBEC, and the coordinating board to encourage education associations to cooperate in certain long-range program development efforts.	No equivalent provision.	(e) Same as House version.
(g) Allows funds for teacher recruitment programs to be used only to publicize and implement the programs.	No equivalent provision.	(f) Same as House version.
SECTION 10. Amends Section 21.044, Education Code, to delete the requirement that the SBEC establish training requirements for entering an internship or an induction-year program.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
SECTION 11. Adds Sections 21.0441 and 21.0442, Education Code, as follows: Sec. 21.0441. Requires the SBEC to propose rules setting out guidelines for the induction of beginning teachers; specifies requirements that the guidelines must meet. Sec. 21.0442. Requires the SBEC to cooperate with and advise the coordinating board in the coordinating board's adoption of rules for educator preparation course work guidelines.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 8. Amends Chapter 21, Education Code, by adding Subchapter K. Teach for Texas Pilot Program Relating to Alternative Certification. Sec. 21.501. Sets forth purpose of the program. Sec. 21.502. Requires the State Board for Educator Certification to establish the program.

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HOUSE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE
SECTION 12. Adds Section 61.0514, Education Code, to require the coordinating board, with advice of the SBEC, to adopt educator preparation course work guidelines to promote integration of subject matter knowledge with classroom teaching strategies and techniques to maximize effectiveness of certification-required course work.	No equivalent provision.	Sec. 21.503. Requires the program to provide financial incentives to program participants, sets forth requirements and conditions for the provision of incentives, and requires the board to propose rules for criteria for awarding incentives.
SECTION 13. Amends Subchapter M, Chapter 61, Education Code, as follows: Sec. 61.701. Deletes "coordinating"; changes "teachers" to "persons." Sec. 61.702. Requires full-time employment as a classroom teacher currently and for at least one year or, alternatively, completion of a doctoral degree program not earlier than 1994 and full-time employment as a faculty member in a college or university in a Texas-Mexico border county, as an eligibility criterion for receiving student loan repayment assistance; deletes a provision authorizing repayment assistance for certain classroom teachers; makes conforming changes. Sec. 61.703. Extends eligibility for receipt of loan repayment assistance grants from 5 to 10 years; makes a conforming change. Sec. 61.704. Allows use of grants to pay for educational loans at private and public institutions and for graduate as well as undergraduate education; makes conforming changes.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 10. Same as House version, except Section 61.707 is amended to allow the coordinating board to solicit gifts, grants, and donations; replaces a citation reference in Section 61.708(b)(2) with a description of the institutions in the reference.

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Sec. 61.705. Makes conforming changes; specifies the minimum amount of repayment assistance a person may receive in one year.

Sec. 61.706. Makes a conforming change.

Sec. 61.707. Makes a conforming change.

Sec. 61.708. Requires the coordinating board to establish minimum and maximum amounts of repayment assistance that may be received in one year; requires distribution of board rules to the personnel office of each college or university in a Texas-Mexico border county; makes conforming changes.

SECTION 14. Amends Section 151.423, Tax Code, to make a conforming change.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 15. Repeals Section 54.216, Education Code.

SECTION 16. Repeals Subchapter F, Chapter 56, Education Code, effective June 1, 1999.

SECTION 17. Provides for the transfer of funds appropriated or collected for certain abolished student financial aid programs to the coordinating board for the Texas Gateway to the Future

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 7. Same as House version.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 8. Same as House version, except also repeals Sections 54.207 and 54.208, Education Code.

SECTION 9. Same as House version, except also repeals Subchapters G and J, Chapter 56, Education Code.

SECTION 10. Substantially the same as House version, except refers to THGP and TTGP.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 4. Same as House version.

SECTION 11. (a) Names the Steven Gonzales-Prisoner of War Higher Education Act.
(b) Amends Chapter 54, Education Code by adding Section 54.219 to provide a college tuition and fee exemption to Texas residents who were classified as prisoners of war on or after January 1, 1999.

SECTION 12. Same as House version, except also repeals Section 54.215, Education Code.

SECTION 13. Same as Senate version, except does not repeal Subchapter J.

SECTION 14. Substantially the same as House version.

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HOUSE VERSION

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CONFERENCE

Grant Program.

SECTION 18. Requires the coordinating board to review and study laws relating to financial aid, grant, and scholarship programs or tuition or fee waivers or exemptions and to look for and report on possible improvements to maximize benefits to the state; requires the board to recommend legislative or administrative action.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 15. Same as House version, except requires the coordinating board also to report to the presiding officer of each legislative committee charged with oversight of higher education institutions.

SECTION 19. Provides for continuation of funding for individual scholarships previously awarded under Section 54.216 from the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program.

SECTION 11. Same as House version, except refers to "financial aid" instead of "scholarships"; refers to scholarships under Subchapter G or J, Chapter 56, Education Code, instead of Section 54.216; refers to THGP and TTGP.

SECTION 16. Substantially the same as House version, except includes reference to other financial aid received under National Guard/ROTC programs abolished in SECTION 11 repealer; refers to TP.

SECTION 20. Requires the coordinating board, with the commissioner of education, to study college students' performance as it relates to the completion of either the recommended or advanced high school curriculum. Specifies items to be considered in the study. Requires the board to issue a final report and recommendations. Provides that the section expires January 2, 2003.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 17. Same as House version, except requires the board also to report to the legislative oversight committee created by this act.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 18. (a) Requires the coordinating board to review and study effects of the grant programs on enrollment to determine whether shifts between institutions have occurred and to make legislative recommendations for changes in methods for awarding grants.
(b) Requires the board to report to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and chairs of certain legislative committees.

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SECTION 21. (a) Requires the coordinating board and eligible colleges and universities to award scholarships under the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program beginning with the 1999 fall semester.

(b) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules for awarding scholarships under the program not later than July 25, 1999.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 22. Requires the commissioner of education to certify to the coordinating board a list of high schools not offering all courses necessary to complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school curriculum.

SECTION 23. Requires the coordinating board to adopt and distribute implementation rules not later than August 15, 2000, and requires public junior and senior colleges and universities to offer courses in accordance with those rules beginning with the 2002 fall semester.

SECTION 24. Emergency clause.

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 12. (a) Requires the coordinating board to award grants under the Texas Hope and Teach for Texas grant programs beginning with the 1999 fall semester.

(b) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules for awarding scholarships under the two grant programs not later than July 31, 1999.

(c) Establishes certain conditions for award of a grant under the Teach for Texas grant program to a person who has not received a Texas Hope grant. Provides that this section expires September 1, 2001.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 14. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 19. (a) Same as House version, except refers to awards under both TP and TTGP programs.

(b) Same as Senate version, except requires the coordinating board to adopt *initial* rules for TP and TTGP.

(c) Substantially the same as Senate version, except refers to TTGP.

SECTION 20. Substantially the same as House version, except requires the commissioner to provide rather than certify the list and specifies *high school* curricula.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 21. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

Austin, Texas

May 21, 1999

Date


Honorable Rick Perry
President of the Senate

Honorable James E. "Pete" Laney
Speaker of the House of Representatives

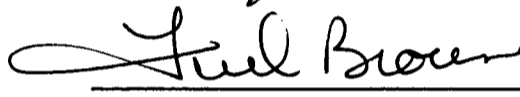
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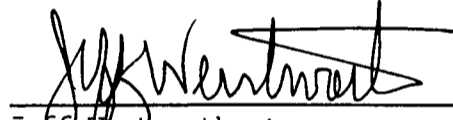
We, Your Conference Committee, appointed to adjust the differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives on HB 713 have had the same under consideration, and beg to report it back with the recommendation that it do pass in the form and text hereto attached.

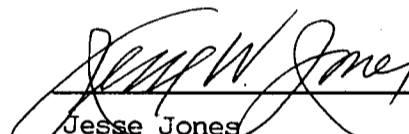

Rodney Ellis, Chair

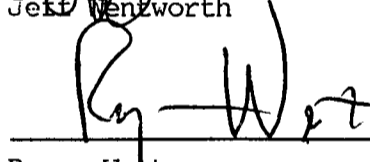

Henry Cuellar, Chair



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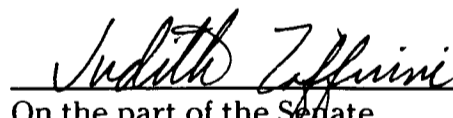

Fred Brown


Jeff Wentworth


Jesse Jones


Royce West


Robert Junnell


On the part of the Senate
Judith Zaffirini


On the part of the House
Irma Rangel

Note to Conference Committee Clerk:

Please type the names of the members of the Conference Committee under the lines provided for signature. Those members desiring to sign the report should sign each of the six copies. Attach a copy of the Conference Committee Report and a Section by Section side by side comparison to each of the six reporting forms. The original and two copies are filed in house of origin of the bill, and three copies in the other house.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

3rd Printing

H.B. No. 713

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment and operation of the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program and the Teach for Texas Grant Program; consolidating and revising financial aid, grant, and scholarship programs; and providing for the education, certification, and recruitment of teachers and faculty instructors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 56, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER M. TOWARD EXCELLENCE, ACCESS, & SUCCESS (TEXAS) GRANT
PROGRAM AND TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 56.301. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher
Education Coordinating Board.

(2) "Eligible institution" means:

(A) an institution of higher education; or

(B) a private or independent institution of
higher education.

(3) "Private or independent institution of higher
education," "public junior college," and "public technical
institute" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

Sec. 56.302. PROGRAM NAME; PURPOSE. (a) The student
financial assistance program authorized by this subchapter is known
as the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program,

1 and an individual grant awarded under this subchapter is known as a
2 TEXAS grant.

3 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a grant of
4 money to enable eligible students to attend public and private
5 institutions of higher education in this state.

6 Sec. 56.303. ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM. (a) The
7 coordinating board shall administer the TEXAS grant program and
8 shall adopt any rules necessary to implement the TEXAS grant
9 program or this subchapter. The coordinating board shall consult
10 with the student financial aid officers of eligible institutions in
11 developing the rules.

12 (b) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to provide a
13 TEXAS grant to an eligible student enrolled in an eligible
14 institution in the most efficient manner possible.

15 (c) The total amount of TEXAS grants awarded may not exceed
16 the amount available for the program from appropriations, gifts,
17 grants, or other funds.

18 (d) In determining who should receive a TEXAS grant, the
19 coordinating board and the eligible institutions shall give highest
20 priority to awarding TEXAS grants to students who demonstrate the
21 greatest financial need.

22 Sec. 56.304. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT. (a) To be
23 eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person must:

24 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by
25 coordinating board rules;

26 (2) meet either of the following academic
27 requirements:

1 (A) be a graduate of a public or accredited
2 private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than
3 the 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or
4 advanced high school curriculum established under Section 28.002 or
5 28.025 or its equivalent; or

6 (B) have received an associate degree from an
7 eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2001;

8 (3) meet financial need requirements as defined by the
9 coordinating board;

10 (4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
11 certificate program at an eligible institution;

12 (5) be enrolled as:

13 (A) an entering undergraduate student for at
14 least three-fourths of a full course load for an entering
15 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, not
16 later than the 16th month after the date of the person's graduation
17 from high school; or

18 (B) an entering student for at least
19 three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as
20 determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month
21 after the month the person receives an associate degree from an
22 eligible institution;

23 (6) have applied for any available financial aid or
24 assistance; and

25 (7) comply with any additional nonacademic requirement
26 adopted by the coordinating board under this subchapter.

27 (b) A person is not eligible to receive a TEXAS grant if the

1 person has been convicted of a felony or an offense under Chapter
2 481, Health and Safety Code (Texas Controlled Substances Act), or
3 under the law of another jurisdiction involving a controlled
4 substance as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, unless
5 the person has met the other applicable eligibility requirements
6 under this subchapter and has:

7 (1) received a certificate of discharge by the Texas
8 Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility or
9 completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least
10 two years have elapsed from the date of the receipt or completion;
11 or

12 (2) been pardoned, had the record of the offense
13 expunged from the person's record, or otherwise has been released
14 from the resulting ineligibility to receive a grant under this
15 subchapter.

16 (c) A person is not eligible to receive a TEXAS grant if the
17 person has been granted a baccalaureate degree.

18 (d) A person may not receive a TEXAS grant for more than
19 150 semester credit hours or the equivalent.

20 (e) A person's eligibility for a TEXAS grant ends on the
21 sixth anniversary of the initial award of a TEXAS grant to the
22 person and the person's enrollment in an eligible institution.

23 (f) The requirement in Subsection (a)(2) that a person must
24 have completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum
25 does not apply to a person who:

26 (1) attended a public high school in a school district
27 if that district certifies to the commissioner of education that

1 the high school did not offer all the necessary courses for a
2 person to complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high
3 school curriculum; and

4 (2) completed all courses at the high school offered
5 toward the completion of the recommended or advanced high school
6 curriculum.

7 (g) Not later than March 1 of each year, the commissioner of
8 education shall provide to the coordinating board a list of all the
9 public high schools that do not offer all the courses necessary to
10 complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school
11 curriculum as described by Subsection (f)(1).

12 (h) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
13 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
14 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
15 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
16 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
17 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
18 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's
19 academic performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a
20 number of semester credit hours that is less than the number of
21 semester credit hours required under Subsection (a)(5). The
22 coordinating board may not allow a person to receive a TEXAS grant
23 while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

24 Sec. 56.305. CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
25 REQUIREMENTS. (a) After initially qualifying for a TEXAS grant, a
26 person may continue to receive a TEXAS grant during each semester
27 or term in which the person is enrolled at an eligible institution

1 only if the person:

2 (1) meets financial need requirements as defined by
3 the coordinating board;

4 (2) is enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
5 certificate program at an eligible institution;

6 (3) is enrolled for at least three-fourths of a full
7 course load for an undergraduate student, as determined by the
8 coordinating board;

9 (4) makes satisfactory academic progress toward an
10 undergraduate degree or certificate; and

11 (5) complies with any additional nonacademic
12 requirement adopted by the coordinating board.

13 (b) A person is not eligible to continue to receive a TEXAS
14 grant under this section if the person has been convicted of a
15 felony or an offense under Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code
16 (Texas Controlled Substances Act), or under the law of another
17 jurisdiction involving a controlled substance as defined by Chapter
18 481, Health and Safety Code, unless the person has met the other
19 applicable eligibility requirements under this subchapter and has:

20 (1) received a certificate of discharge by the Texas
21 Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility or
22 completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least
23 two years have elapsed from the date of the receipt or completion;
24 or

25 (2) been pardoned, had the record of the offense
26 expunged from the person's record, or otherwise has been released
27 from the resulting ineligibility to receive a grant under this

1 subchapter.

2 (c) If a person fails to meet any of the requirements of
3 Subsection (a) after the completion of any semester or term, the
4 person may not receive a TEXAS grant during the next semester or
5 term in which the person enrolls. A person may become eligible to
6 receive a TEXAS grant in a subsequent semester or term if the
7 person:

8 (1) completes a semester or term during which the
9 student is not eligible for a scholarship; and

10 (2) meets all the requirements of Subsection (a).

11 (d) A person who qualifies for and subsequently receives a
12 TEXAS grant, who receives an undergraduate certificate or associate
13 degree, and who, not later than the 12th month after the month the
14 person receives the certificate or degree, enrolls in a program
15 leading to a higher-level undergraduate degree continues to be
16 eligible for a TEXAS grant to the extent other eligibility
17 requirements are met.

18 (e) For the purpose of this section, a person makes
19 satisfactory academic progress toward an undergraduate degree or
20 certificate only if:

21 (1) in the person's first academic year the person
22 meets the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the
23 institution at which the person is enrolled; and

24 (2) in a subsequent academic year, the person:

25 (A) completes at least 75 percent of the
26 semester credit hours attempted in the student's most recent
27 academic year; and

1 (B) earns an overall grade point average of at
2 least 2.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on coursework
3 previously attempted at institutions of higher education.

4 (f) A person who is eligible to receive a TEXAS grant
5 continues to remain eligible to receive the TEXAS grant if the
6 person enrolls in or transfers to another eligible institution.

7 (g) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
8 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
9 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
10 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
11 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
12 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
13 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's
14 academic performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a
15 number of semester credit hours that is less than the number of
16 semester credit hours required under Subsection (a)(3). The
17 coordinating board may not allow a person to receive a TEXAS grant
18 while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

19 Sec. 56.306. GRANT USE. A person receiving a TEXAS grant
20 may use the money to pay any usual and customary cost of attendance
21 at an institution of higher education incurred by the student. The
22 institution may disburse all or part of the proceeds of a TEXAS
23 grant to an eligible person only if the tuition and required fees
24 incurred by the person at the institution have been paid.

25 Sec. 56.307. GRANT AMOUNT. (a) The amount of a TEXAS grant
26 for a semester or term for a person enrolled full-time at an
27 eligible institution other than an institution covered by

1 Subsection (b), (c), or (d) is the amount determined by the
2 coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition and
3 required fees that a resident student enrolled full-time in a
4 baccalaureate degree program would be charged for that semester or
5 term at general academic teaching institutions.

6 (b) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
7 full-time at a private or independent institution of higher
8 education is the amount determined by the coordinating board as the
9 average statewide amount of tuition and required fees that a
10 resident student enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree
11 program would be charged for that semester or term at general
12 academic teaching institutions.

13 (c) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
14 full-time at a public technical institute is the amount determined
15 by the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of
16 tuition and required fees that a resident student enrolled
17 full-time in an associate degree or certificate program would be
18 charged for that semester or term at public technical institutes.

19 (d) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
20 full-time at a public junior college is the amount determined by
21 the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition
22 and required fees that a student who is a resident of the junior
23 college district and is enrolled full-time in an associate degree
24 or certificate program would be charged for that semester or term
25 at public junior colleges.

26 (e) The coordinating board may adopt rules that allow the
27 coordinating board to increase or decrease, in proportion to the

1 number of semester credit hours in which a student is enrolled, the
2 amount of a TEXAS grant award under this section to a student who
3 is enrolled in a number of semester credit hours in excess of or
4 below the number of semester credit hours described in Section
5 56.304(a)(5) or 56.305(a)(3).

6 (f) The amount of a TEXAS grant may not be reduced by any
7 gift aid for which the person receiving the grant is eligible,
8 unless the total amount of a person's grant plus any gift aid
9 received exceeds the total cost of attendance at an eligible
10 institution.

11 (g) Not later than January 31 of each year, the coordinating
12 board shall publish the amounts of each grant established by the
13 board for each type of institution for the academic year beginning
14 the next fall semester.

15 (h) The total amount of grants that a student may receive in
16 an academic year under this subchapter and under Section 61.221 may
17 not exceed the maximum amount authorized under Section 61.227.

18 (i) A public institution of higher education may not:

19 (1) charge a person attending the institution who also
20 receives a TEXAS grant an amount of tuition and required fees in
21 excess of the amount of the TEXAS grant received by the person; or

22 (2) deny admission to or enrollment in the institution
23 based on a person's eligibility to receive a TEXAS grant or a
24 person's receipt of a TEXAS grant.

25 (j) An institution may use other available sources of
26 financial aid, other than a loan or a Pell grant, to cover any
27 difference in the amount of a TEXAS grant and the actual amount of

1 tuition and required fees at the institution.

2 (k) The legislature in an appropriations act shall account
3 for tuition and required fees received under this section in a way
4 that does not increase the general revenue appropriations to that
5 institution.

6 Sec. 56.308. NOTIFICATION OF PROGRAM; RESPONSIBILITIES OF
7 SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (a) The coordinating board shall distribute to
8 each eligible institution and to each school district a copy of the
9 rules adopted under this subchapter.

10 (b) Each school district shall:

11 (1) notify its middle school students, junior high
12 school students, and high school students, those students' teachers
13 and counselors, and those students' parents of the TEXAS grant and
14 Teach for Texas grant programs established under this subchapter,
15 the eligibility requirements of each program, the need for students
16 to make informed curriculum choices to be prepared for success
17 beyond high school, and sources of information on higher education
18 admissions and financial aid in a manner that assists the district
19 in implementing a strategy adopted by the district under Section
20 11.252(a)(4); and

21 (2) ensure that each student's official transcript or
22 diploma indicates whether the student has completed or is on
23 schedule to complete:

24 (A) the recommended or advanced high school
25 curriculum required for grant eligibility under Section 28.002 or
26 28.025; or

27 (B) for a school district covered by Section

1 56.304(f)(1), the required portion of the recommended or advanced
2 high school curriculum in the manner described by Section
3 56.304(f)(2).

4 (c) The information required by Subsection (b)(2) must be
5 included on a student's transcript not later than the end of the
6 student's junior year.

7 (d) In addition to the eligibility requirements of Section
8 56.304, a person who graduated from an accredited private high
9 school is eligible to receive a grant under this subchapter only if
10 the student's official transcript or diploma includes the
11 information required as provided by Subsections (b)(2)(A) and (c).

12 Sec. 56.309. TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The purpose
13 of the Teach for Texas grant program is to attract to the teaching
14 profession persons who have expressed interest in teaching and to
15 support the certification of those persons as classroom teachers.

16 (b) A Teach for Texas tuition grant is available only to a
17 person who receives a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or 56.305,
18 applies for a Teach for Texas tuition grant, and is enrolled as a
19 junior or senior in a baccalaureate degree program if:

20 (1) the degree program is in a teaching field
21 certified by the commissioner of education as experiencing a
22 critical shortage of teachers in this state in the year in which
23 the person begins the degree program; or

24 (2) the person agrees to teach in a public school in
25 this state in a community, which is not required to be specifically
26 designated at the time the person receives the grant, certified by
27 the commissioner of education as experiencing a critical shortage

1 of teachers in any year in which the person receives a grant under
2 this section or in any subsequent year in which the person fulfills
3 the teaching obligation.

4 (c) To receive a Teach for Texas tuition grant, a person
5 must agree to teach full-time for five years at the preschool,
6 primary, or secondary level in a public school in this state in the
7 person's chosen critical field or in a community experiencing a
8 critical teacher shortage, as applicable.

9 (d) The amount of a Teach for Texas tuition grant under this
10 section is equal to two times the amount of a TEXAS grant
11 authorized under Section 56.307(b) for the same semester or term.
12 A person may receive both a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or
13 56.305 and a grant under this section for the same semester or
14 term.

15 (e) The person must begin fulfilling the teaching obligation
16 of this section not later than the 18th month after the person
17 completes the degree program and any related courses required for
18 teacher certification, unless the coordinating board grants the
19 person additional time to begin fulfilling the teaching obligation.
20 The person must complete the teaching obligation not later than the
21 sixth year after the date the person begins to fulfill the teaching
22 obligation. The coordinating board shall grant a person additional
23 time to complete the teaching obligation for good cause.

24 (f) The coordinating board shall cancel a person's teaching
25 obligation if the board determines that the person:

26 (1) has become permanently disabled so that the person
27 is not able to teach; or

1 (2) has died.

2 (g) The coordinating board shall require a person who
3 receives a Teach for Texas grant under this section to sign a
4 promissory note acknowledging the conditional nature of the grant
5 and promising to repay the amount of the grant plus applicable
6 interest and reasonable collection costs if the person does not
7 satisfy the applicable conditions. The board shall determine the
8 terms of the promissory note.

9 (h) The amount required to be repaid by a person who fails
10 to complete the teaching obligation of the person's grant shall be
11 determined in proportion to the portion of the teaching obligation
12 that the person has not satisfied.

13 (i) A person receiving a Teach for Texas tuition grant is
14 considered to have failed to satisfy the conditions of the grant,
15 and the grant automatically becomes a loan, if the person fails to
16 remain enrolled in or to make steady progress in the degree program
17 for which the grant was made without good cause as determined by
18 the coordinating board or if the person fails to become certified
19 as a teacher not later than the 18th month after the date the
20 person receives a degree.

21 Sec. 56.310. FUNDING. (a) The coordinating board may
22 solicit and accept gifts and grants from any public or private
23 source for the purposes of this subchapter.

24 (b) The legislature may appropriate money for the purposes
25 of this subchapter.

26 Sec. 56.311. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. (a) The
27 Legislative Oversight Committee on the TEXAS and Teach for Texas

1 grant programs established by this subchapter is composed of six
2 members as follows:

3 (1) three members of the senate appointed by the
4 lieutenant governor; and

5 (2) three members of the house of representatives
6 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

7 (b) The committee shall:

8 (1) meet at least twice a year with the coordinating
9 board; and

10 (2) receive information regarding rules relating to
11 the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs established by this
12 subchapter that have been adopted by the coordinating board or
13 proposed for adoption by the coordinating board.

14 (c) The committee may request reports and other information
15 from the coordinating board relating to the operation of the TEXAS
16 and Teach for Texas grant programs under this subchapter by the
17 coordinating board.

18 (d) The committee shall review the specific recommendations
19 for legislation related to this subchapter that are proposed by the
20 coordinating board.

21 (e) The committee shall monitor the operation of the TEXAS
22 and Teach for Texas grant programs established under this
23 subchapter, with emphasis on the manner of the award of grants, the
24 number of grants awarded, and the educational progress made by
25 persons who have received grants under this subchapter.

26 (f) The committee shall file a report with the governor,
27 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives

1 not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year.

2 (g) The report shall include identification of any problems
3 in the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs operated under this
4 subchapter with recommended solutions for the coordinating board
5 and for legislative action.

6 SECTION 2. Section 54.5021(c), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (c) Not later than August 31 of each fiscal year, each
9 institution of higher education that has an unobligated and
10 unexpended balance in its student deposit fund that exceeds 150
11 percent of the total deposits to that fund during that year shall
12 remit to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board the amount
13 of that excess. The coordinating board shall allocate on an
14 equitable basis amounts received under this subsection to
15 institutions of higher education that do not have an excess
16 described by this subsection for deposit in their student deposit
17 fund. The amount allocated under this subsection may be used only
18 for making grants under Subchapter M, Chapter 56 [~~scholarship~~
19 ~~awards-to-needy-and-deserving-students-under-this-section~~].

20 SECTION 3. Section 56.039, Education Code, is amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 56.039. FULL USE OF FUNDS. At the end of a fiscal
23 year, if the total amount of unencumbered funds that have been set
24 aside under this subchapter by an institution of higher education,
25 together with the total amount of unencumbered funds transferred by
26 that institution to the Coordinating Board, Texas College and
27 University System, exceeds 150 percent of the amount of funds set

1 aside by that institution in that fiscal year, the institution
2 shall transfer the excess amount to the coordinating board. The
3 coordinating board shall use funds transferred under this section
4 to award grants under Subchapter M [~~scholarships-as-provided-by-law~~
5 ~~to--students--at--institutions--other--than--the--institution--that~~
6 ~~transferred-the-funds~~].

7 SECTION 4. Section 151.423, Tax Code, is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 Sec. 151.423. REIMBURSEMENT TO TAXPAYER FOR TAX COLLECTIONS.
10 A taxpayer may deduct and withhold one-half of one percent of the
11 amount of taxes due from the taxpayer on a timely return as
12 reimbursement for the cost of collecting the taxes imposed by this
13 chapter. The comptroller shall provide a card with each form
14 distributed for the collection of taxes under this chapter. The
15 card may be inserted by the taxpayer with the tax payment to
16 provide for contribution of all or part of the reimbursement
17 provided by this section for use as grants [~~student--financial~~
18 ~~assistance---grants---offered~~] under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
19 Education Code. If the taxpayer chooses to contribute the
20 reimbursement for the [~~student~~] grants, the taxpayer shall include
21 the amount of the reimbursement contribution with the tax payment.
22 The comptroller shall transfer money contributed under this section
23 for [~~student~~] grants under Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education
24 Code, to the appropriate fund.

25 SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
26 amended by adding Section 61.0776 to read as follows:

27 Sec. 61.0776. CENTER FOR FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION. (a)

1 The board, in cooperation with public and private or independent
 2 institutions of higher education, the Texas Education Agency,
 3 public school counselors, representatives of student financial aid
 4 offices of any institutions, regional education service centers,
 5 and the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, shall develop a
 6 center for financial aid information. The center shall disseminate
 7 information about financial aid opportunities and procedures,
 8 including information about different types of financial aid
 9 available, eligibility requirements, and procedures for applying
 10 for financial aid. The center shall also provide information to
 11 prospective students about the Teach for Texas grant program. The
 12 information must emphasize the importance of teaching as a
 13 profession.

14 (b) To assist the board in developing information provided
 15 by the center, the board shall create and appoint an advisory
 16 committee that consists of experts in financial aid administration,
 17 public school counselors, and other persons who can provide insight
 18 into the informational needs of students.

19 (c) The board may designate an institution of higher
 20 education or other entity with appropriate facilities and
 21 resources to operate or house the center.

22 (d) The center shall maintain a toll-free telephone line
 23 that is staffed by persons knowledgeable about financial aid
 24 information in this state.

25 (e) The center shall, based on the advisory committee's
 26 recommendations, publish information concerning financial aid
 27 opportunities in this state and shall:

1 (1) furnish a written copy of the information to each
2 middle school, junior high school, and high school counselor in
3 this state; and

4 (2) post the information on an Internet website
5 accessible to the public.

6 SECTION 6. Section 11.252(a), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) Each school district shall have a district improvement
9 plan that is developed, evaluated, and revised annually, in
10 accordance with district policy, by the superintendent with the
11 assistance of the district-level committee established under
12 Section 11.251. The purpose of the district improvement plan is to
13 guide district and campus staff in the improvement of student
14 performance for all student groups in order to attain state
15 standards in respect to the academic excellence indicators adopted
16 under Section 39.051. The district improvement plan must include
17 provisions for:

18 (1) a comprehensive needs assessment addressing
19 district student performance on the academic excellence indicators,
20 and other appropriate measures of performance, that are
21 disaggregated by all student groups served by the district,
22 including categories of ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sex, and
23 populations served by special programs;

24 (2) measurable district performance objectives for all
25 appropriate academic excellence indicators for all student
26 populations, appropriate objectives for special needs populations,
27 and other measures of student performance that may be identified

1 through the comprehensive needs assessment;

2 (3) strategies for improvement of student performance
3 that include:

4 (A) instructional methods for addressing the
5 needs of student groups not achieving their full potential;

6 (B) methods for addressing the needs of students
7 for special programs, such as suicide prevention, conflict
8 resolution, violence prevention, or dyslexia treatment programs;

9 (C) dropout reduction;

10 (D) integration of technology in instructional
11 and administrative programs;

12 (E) discipline management;

13 (F) staff development for professional staff of
14 the district;

15 (G) career education to assist students in
16 developing the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for a
17 broad range of career opportunities; and

18 (H) accelerated education;

19 (4) strategies for providing to middle school, junior
20 high school, and high school students, those students' teachers
21 and counselors, and those students' parents information about:

22 (A) higher education admissions and financial
23 aid opportunities;

24 (B) the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for
25 Texas grant program established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56;

26 (C) the need for students to make informed
27 curriculum choices to be prepared for success beyond high school;

1 and

2 (D) sources of information on higher education
3 admissions and financial aid;

4 (5) resources needed to implement identified
5 strategies;

6 (6) [†5†] staff responsible for ensuring the
7 accomplishment of each strategy;

8 (7) [†6†] timelines for ongoing monitoring of the
9 implementation of each improvement strategy; and

10 (8) [†7†] formative evaluation criteria for
11 determining periodically whether strategies are resulting in
12 intended improvement of student performance.

13 SECTION 7. Section 21.004, Education Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 Sec. 21.004. TEACHER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM. (a) To the
16 extent that funds are available, the [The] agency, the State Board
17 for Educator Certification, and the Texas Higher Education
18 Coordinating Board shall develop and implement programs [a-program]
19 to identify talented students and recruit those students and
20 persons, including high school and undergraduate students,
21 mid-career and retired professionals, honorably discharged and
22 retired military personnel, and members of underrepresented gender
23 and ethnic groups, [these--students-for-entry] into the teaching
24 profession.

25 (b) From available funds, the agency, the State Board for
26 Educator Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
27 Board shall develop and distribute materials that emphasize the

importance of the teaching profession and inform individuals about state-funded loan forgiveness and tuition assistance programs [The recruitment-program-must-include-a-technology-program-suitable--for presentation-on-campus-at-high-schools-and-institutions-of-higher education-in-this-state].

(c) ~~[The--Texas--Higher--Education--Coordinating-Board-shall cooperate-with--and--assist--the--agency--in--the--development--and implementation-of-the-recruitment-program-~~

[+d}] The commissioner, in cooperation with the commissioner of higher education and the executive director of the State Board for Educator Certification, shall annually ~~[may--coordinate--and administer--a--comprehensive--program--to]~~ identify the need for teachers in specific subject areas and geographic regions and among ~~[to-encourage-members-of]~~ underrepresented groups ~~[to--enter--the teaching-profession.--in-coordinating-the-program, the commissioner shall--consider--the--efforts--of--existing-programs-for-recruiting minorities-into-the-teaching-profession].~~ The commissioner shall give priority to developing and implementing recruitment programs to address those needs ~~[this--program]~~ from the agency's discretionary funds.

(d) ~~[+e)--The--commissioner--may-implement-a-plan-to-identify talented-secondary-school-students--and--to--attract--them--to--the teaching--profession.--in--cooperation--with-the-commissioner, the principal-of-each-high-school-shall-appoint-a-volunteer-teacher--as the--teacher--recruiting--officer--for--the--school--to--assist--in providing--information--about-the-merits-of-the-teaching-profession and-in-identifying-and--encouraging--talented--students--to--become~~

~~teachers.---The-commissioner-may-sponsor-a-meeting-in-each-regional~~
~~education-service-center-region-of-the-teacher-recruiting--officers~~
~~from--each--high--school--in--that-area-to-provide-the-officers-the~~
~~opportunity-to-share-information-and-materials--about--the--teacher~~
~~recruitment-program.~~

~~(f)~~ The agency, the State Board for Educator
Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
~~[commissioner]~~ shall encourage the business community to cooperate
with local schools to develop recruiting programs designed to
attract and retain capable teachers, including programs to
provide~~[:---The-commissioner-shall-encourage-the-business--community~~
~~to-provide]~~ summer employment opportunities for teachers.

~~(e)~~ ~~(g)~~ The agency, the State Board for Educator
Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
~~[commissioner]~~ shall encourage major education associations to
cooperate in developing a long-range program promoting teaching as
a career and to assist in identifying local activities and
resources that may be used to promote the teaching profession.

~~(f)~~ ~~(h)~~ Funds received for ~~[the]~~ teacher recruitment
programs ~~[program]~~ may be used only to publicize and implement the
programs ~~[program]~~.

SECTION 8. Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding
Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. TEACH FOR TEXAS PILOT PROGRAM RELATING TO
ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

Sec. 21.501. PURPOSES. The purposes of the alternative
certification Teach for Texas Pilot Program are to:

1 (1) attract to the teaching profession persons who
2 have expressed interest in teaching and to support the
3 certification of those persons as teachers;

4 (2) recognize the importance of the certification
5 process governed by the State Board for Educator Certification
6 under Subchapter B, which requires verification of competence in
7 subject area and professional knowledge and skills;

8 (3) encourage the creation and expansion of educator
9 preparation programs that recognize the knowledge and skills gained
10 through previous educational and work-related experiences and that
11 are delivered in a manner that recognizes individual circumstances,
12 including the need to remain employed full-time while enrolled in
13 the Teach for Texas Pilot Program; and

14 (4) provide annual stipends to postbaccalaureate
15 teacher certification candidates.

16 Sec. 21.502. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED. The State Board for
17 Educator Certification by rule shall establish the Teach for Texas
18 Pilot Program consistent with the purposes provided by Section
19 21.501.

20 Sec. 21.503. FINANCIAL INCENTIVES. (a) The pilot program
21 must offer to participants financial incentives, including tuition
22 assistance and loan forgiveness. In offering a financial
23 incentive, the State Board for Educator Certification shall:

24 (1) require a contract between each participant who
25 accepts a financial incentive and the State Board for Educator
26 Certification under which the participant is obligated to teach in
27 a public school in this state for a stated period after

1 certification;

2 (2) provide financial incentives in proportion to the
3 length of the period the participant is obligated by contract to
4 teach after certification; and

5 (3) give special financial incentives to a participant
6 who agrees in the contract to teach in an underserved area.

7 (b) Financial incentives may be paid only from funds
8 appropriated specifically for that purpose and from gifts, grants,
9 and donations solicited or accepted by the State Board for Educator
10 Certification for that purpose.

11 (c) The State Board for Educator Certification shall
12 propose rules establishing criteria for awarding financial
13 incentives under this section, including criteria for awarding
14 financial incentives if there are more participants than funds
15 available to provide the financial incentives.

16 SECTION 9. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
17 amended by adding Section 61.0514 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 61.0514. INTEGRATED COURSEWORK. The board, with the
19 cooperation and advice of the State Board for Educator
20 Certification, shall adopt educator preparation coursework
21 guidelines that promote, to the greatest extent practicable, the
22 integration of subject matter knowledge with classroom teaching
23 strategies and techniques in order to maximize the effectiveness
24 and efficiency of coursework required for certification under
25 Subchapter B, Chapter 21.

26 SECTION 10. Subchapter M, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
27 amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER M. REPAYMENT OF CERTAIN
TEACHER AND FACULTY EDUCATION LOANS

Sec. 61.701. REPAYMENT AUTHORIZED. The [coordinating] board may provide, in accordance with this subchapter and board rules, assistance in the repayment of student loans for persons [teachers] who apply and qualify for the assistance.

Sec. 61.702. ELIGIBILITY. [†a†] To be eligible to receive repayment assistance, a person [teacher] must[†

[††] apply to the [coordinating] board[†] and must have:

(1) [†2†--have] completed at least one year of employment as and be employed as a full-time classroom teacher in the elementary or secondary schools of this state in an area or field of acute teacher shortage as designated by the State Board of Education; or

(2) received a doctoral degree not earlier than September 1, 1994, from a public or private institution of higher education accredited as required by the board and be employed as a full-time faculty member with instructional duties in an institution of higher education located in a county that borders the United Mexican States.

[†b†--The--coordinating--board--may--provide--by---rule---for repayment--assistance--on--a--pro--rata-basis-for-teachers-employed part-time-in-an-elementary-or-secondary-school-of-this-state-in--an area--or-field-of-acute-teacher-shortage-as-designated-by-the-State Board-of-Education†]

Sec. 61.703. LIMITATION. A person [teacher] may not receive

1 repayment assistance grants for more than 10 [~~five~~] years.

2 Sec. 61.704. ELIGIBLE LOANS. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board
3 may provide repayment assistance for the repayment of any student
4 loan for education at a public or private [~~an~~] institution of
5 higher education, including loans for undergraduate and graduate
6 education, received by a person [~~teacher~~] through any lender.

7 (b) The [~~coordinating~~] board may not provide repayment
8 assistance for a student loan that is in default at the time of the
9 person's [~~teacher's~~] application.

10 Sec. 61.705. REPAYMENT. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall
11 deliver any repayment made under this subchapter in a lump sum
12 payable to the lender and the person [~~teacher~~], in accordance with
13 federal law.

14 (b) A repayment made under this subchapter may be applied to
15 the principal amount of the loan and to interest that accrues.

16 (c) The minimum amount of repayment assistance that may be
17 received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(2) is
18 50 percent of the amount of principal and accrued interest that is
19 due that year.

20 Sec. 61.706. ADVISORY COMMITTEES. The [~~coordinating~~] board
21 may appoint advisory committees from outside the board's membership
22 to assist the board in performing its duties under this subchapter.

23 Sec. 61.707. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS. The [~~coordinating~~] board
24 may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations for the
25 purposes of this subchapter.

26 Sec. 61.708. RULES. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall
27 adopt rules necessary for the administration of this subchapter,

including:

(1) a rule that sets a minimum or maximum amount of repayment assistance that may be received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(1); and

(2) a rule that sets a maximum amount of repayment assistance that may be received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(2) [teacher-in-one-year].

(b) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall distribute a copy of the rules adopted under this section and pertinent information in this subchapter to:

(1) each institution of higher education that offers a teacher education program;

(2) the personnel office at each institution of higher education located in a county that borders the United Mexican States;

(3) any other appropriate state agency; and

(4) [~~†3†~~] any appropriate professional association.

SECTION 11. Sections 54.215 and 54.216, Education Code, are repealed.

SECTION 12. Subchapters F and G, Chapter 56, Education Code, are repealed effective June 1, 1999.

SECTION 13. Any money appropriated to or collected for a program abolished under Section 11 or 12 of this Act or that exists in any account to support a program abolished under Section 11 or 12 of this Act, including the Texas New Horizons Scholarship Trust Fund, is transferred to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for use in the TEXAS Grant Program.

1 SECTION 14. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
2 Board shall review and study the laws relating to student financial
3 aid, grant, and scholarship programs and tuition and fee waivers or
4 exemptions. The study shall describe improvements that may be made
5 to existing programs to maximize the benefit of the programs to the
6 state and its students and shall include recommendations for
7 legislative or administrative action that may be taken to
8 consolidate, expand, or otherwise modify existing programs or
9 create new programs.

10 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
11 report its activities and findings to the governor, the lieutenant
12 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
13 presiding officer of each legislative committee charged with the
14 oversight of higher education institutions not later than December
15 1, 2000.

16 SECTION 15. A person receiving a scholarship or other
17 financial assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216, Education
18 Code, or Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, on the effective
19 date of this Act may continue to receive a scholarship or other
20 financial assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216 or under
21 Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, as applicable to the
22 person on the effective date, until the person is no longer
23 eligible for the scholarship or other assistance under Section
24 54.215 or 54.216, Education Code, or Subchapter G, Chapter 56,
25 Education Code, as the applicable section or subchapter exists on
26 January 1, 1999. The costs of the scholarships or other financial
27 assistance authorized under this section shall be covered by the

1 TEXAS grant program established by Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
2 Education Code, as added by this Act.

3 SECTION 16. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
4 Board, in conjunction with the commissioner of education, shall
5 conduct a study relating to the performance of students at
6 institutions of higher education as that performance relates to
7 whether a student completed the recommended or advanced high school
8 curriculum.

9 (b) The board shall include in the study consideration of:

10 (1) the number of schools that offered all or part of
11 the recommended or advanced high school curriculum;

12 (2) the types and number of students who completed the
13 recommended or advanced high school curriculum; and

14 (3) the effect, if any, of the method that a school
15 district uses to present or deliver any portion of the recommended
16 or advanced high school curriculum to its students.

17 (c) Not later than January 1, 2003, the board shall issue a
18 final report describing the findings of the study conducted under
19 this section and any recommendations for legislation or
20 administrative action to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker
21 of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of each
22 legislative committee charged with the oversight of primary and
23 secondary education or higher education, and the legislative
24 oversight committee established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
25 Education Code, as added by this Act. The board may issue
26 preliminary reports related to the study at any time.

27 (d) This section expires January 2, 2003.

1 SECTION 17. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
2 Board shall review and study the effect of the TEXAS grant program
3 and the Teach for Texas grant program established by Subchapter M,
4 Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act, on enrollments at
5 institutions of higher education. The study shall determine
6 whether there have been shifts in enrollments between universities
7 and community colleges and whether those shifts were caused by the
8 different grant amounts awarded to students at each institution.
9 The report shall make recommendations for legislative changes to
10 the methodology for calculating the amount of the grant awards, if
11 needed.

12 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
13 report its findings to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
14 speaker of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of
15 each legislative committee with oversight responsibilities for
16 higher education institutions, and the legislative oversight
17 committee established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education
18 Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 1, 2000.

19 SECTION 18. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
20 Board and the eligible institutions of higher education shall award
21 scholarships under the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for Texas
22 grant program established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
23 Education Code, as added by this Act, beginning with the 1999 fall
24 semester.

25 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
26 adopt the initial rules for awarding grants under the TEXAS grant
27 program and the Teach for Texas grant program established under

1 Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act, not
2 later than July 31, 1999.

3 (c) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may award
4 a grant under the Teach for Texas Grant Program to a person who has
5 not received a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or 56.305,
6 Education Code, as added by this Act, if the person meets all the
7 other qualifications for the award of a Teach for Texas tuition
8 grant under Section 56.309, Education Code, as added by this Act,
9 and the requirements for a TEXAS grant under Sections 56.304 and
10 56.305, Education Code, except for requirements of Sections
11 56.304(a)(2) and (5), Education Code, as added by this Act. This
12 subsection expires September 1, 2001.

13 SECTION 19. The commissioner of education shall provide to
14 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board a list of all of the
15 public high schools that do not offer all the courses necessary to
16 complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school
17 curriculum or its equivalent as required by Section 56.304(f)(1),
18 Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than July 31, 1999.

19 SECTION 20. The importance of this legislation and the
20 crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an
21 emergency and an imperative public necessity that the
22 constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several
23 days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended,
24 and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its
25 passage, and it is so enacted.

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SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 56, Education Code, by adding Subchapter M. Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program.	SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 56, Education Code, by adding Subchapter M. Texas Hope Grant Program and Teach for Texas Grant Program.	SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 56, Education Code, by adding Subchapter M. Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) Grant Program and Teach for Texas Grant Program.
Sec. 56.301. Defines "coordinating board," "eligible institution," and "private or independent institution of education." Refers to other institutional definitions given in the code.	Sec. 56.301. Same as House version.	Sec. 56.301. Same as House version.
Sec. 56.302. Names the program as the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program and individual awards as Texas Gateway grants; states that the purpose of the program is to provide a grant to enable eligible students to attend public and private institutions of higher education in this state.	Sec. 56.302. Same as House version, except names two programs as the Texas Hope Grant Program (THGP) and the Teach for Texas Grant Program (TTGP); states that the purpose of the program is to enable <i>qualified</i> students to attend public and private institutions of higher education in this state; makes conforming changes.	Sec. 56.302. Same as House version, except names the program as the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program and individual awards as TEXAS grants.
Sec. 56.303. (a) Requires the coordinating board to administer the program, adopt implementation rules, and consult with student financial aid officers in developing rules.	Sec. 56.303. (a) Same as House version, except that it refers to THGP and TTGP; deletes requirement that the board consult with student financial aid officers.	Sec. 56.303. (a) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TEXAS program (TP).
(b) Requires the board to adopt rules for providing grants in most efficient manner possible.	(b) Substantially the same as House version.	(b) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TP.
(c) Limits the amount of grants that may be awarded.	(c) Same as House version, except for program name.	(c) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TP.
(d) Requires the board and eligible institutions to give priority to students with greatest financial need.	(d) Same as House version, except for grant name; deletes reference to eligible institutions.	(d) Same as House version, except changes THGP to TP.
Sec. 56.304. (a)(1) Provides that, to be eligible initially for a Texas Gateway grant, a person must be a resident of this state	Sec. 56.304. (a)(1) Same as House version.	Sec. 56.304. (a)(1) Same as House version.

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as determined by coordinating board rules.

(a)(2) Provides that a person must meet either of the following academic requirements: (A) be a graduate of a public high school in this state or a private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum established under Section 28.025 or an equivalent curriculum recognized by the State Board of Education; or (B) have received an associate degree from an eligible institution not earlier than the 1998-1999 academic year.

(a)(3) Provides that a person must meet financial need requirements as defined by the coordinating board.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(4) Provides that a person must be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible institution.

(a)(5) Requires that, if the person does not meet the academic requirement provided by Subdivision (2)(B), the person must enroll for at least one-half of a full course load as a first-time entering undergraduate student in an undergraduate degree or certificate program.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(2) Same as House version, except removes graduation from a *private* high school, "an equivalent curriculum recognized by the State Board of Education," and "an associate degree from an eligible institution" as eligibility criteria.

(a)(3) Same as House version.

(a)(4) Requires that a person be from a low-income or middle-income family, as determined by the coordinating board.

(a)(5) Same as House version.

(a)(6) Requires that a person must enroll for at least three-fourths of a full course load as an entering freshman in an undergraduate degree or certificate program not later than the 16th month after the month of the person's graduation from a high school in this state.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(2) Same as House version, except that in (A) it requires that a recipient must be a graduate of a public or *accredited* private high school and in (B) it requires that a recipient have received an associate degree from an eligible institution *not earlier than May 1, 2001*.

(a)(3) Same as House version.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(4) Same as House version.

(a)(5)(A) Substantially the same as Senate version, except deletes reference to a *certificate program* and adds that undergraduate course load is to be determined by the coordinating board.

(a)(5)(B) Provides that a person must be enrolled as an entering student for at least three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month after the month the person receives

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No equivalent provision.

(a)(7) Requires that a person have applied for any available financial aid or assistance.

an associate degree from an eligible institution.

(a)(6) Same as Senate version.

No equivalent provision.

(a)(8) Requires that a person comply with any other requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this chapter.

(a)(7) Same as Senate version, except specifies compliance with any *additional nonacademic* requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this chapter.

(b) Makes any person with a bachelor's degree ineligible for a Gateway grant.

(b) Same as House version, except refers to THGP.

(c) Same as House version, except refers to TP.

(c) Prohibits award of Gateway grants for more than 150 credit hours.

(c) Same as House version, except refers to THGP.

(d) Same as House version, except refers to TP.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

(d) Authorizes a person to complete the advanced high school curriculum by attending classes at the student's high school or by a distance learning program.

SECTION 13 is substantially the same as House version Section 56.304(e), except that it expires September 1, 2001.

(f) Same as House version, except refers to a *public* high school in a *school district* if that district certifies to the commissioner that the school did not offer the necessary courses; deletes reference to course equivalents.

No equivalent provision.

(g) Same as House version, except requires the commissioner to *provide* the list to the coordinating board.

(d) Provides that a person's eligibility for a THGP grant ends on the sixth anniversary of the person's initial enrollment in an eligible institution.

(e) Same as Senate version, except refers to a TP grant; specifies that the term of eligibility begins with the *initial award to the person* and the person's enrollment.

(e) Makes a person convicted of a felony, a crime involving moral turpitude, or a crime involving a controlled substance ineligible, unless the person meets other eligibility requirements,

(b) Substantially the same as Senate version, except omits crimes of moral turpitude.

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has been discharged or has completed a period of probation and at least two years have elapsed, or has been pardoned, had the record expunged, or is released from ineligibility.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

(h) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules to allow an otherwise eligible person to receive a TP grant while enrolled in a reduced number of semester credit hours because of a hardship or other good cause, such as a severe illness or responsibility for taking care of a sick or needy person. Prohibits the coordinating board from allowing a person to receive a TP grant while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

Sec. 56.305. (a) Establishes continuing eligibility and academic performance requirements, including continuing financial need, enrollment in a required program of an eligible institution, enrollment with at least one-half of a full course load, and satisfactory progress.

No equivalent provision.

(b) Provides that failure to meet any requirement results in loss of eligibility for the next semester or term, but allows for resumption of eligibility.
(c) Provides continuing eligibility for certain undergraduate recipients who receive an associate degree or undergraduate certificate and who subsequently enroll in a program leading to

Sec. 56.305. (a) Same as House version, except requirements include enrollment for at least three-fourths of a full course load and compliance with any other requirements adopted by the coordinating board.

No equivalent provision.

(b) Substantially the same as House version.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.305. (a) Same as Senate version, except provides that the coordinating board determines the full course load for an undergraduate student; requires compliance with "additional nonacademic" requirements instead of other "requirements"; refers to TP grant instead of THGP grant.

(b) Makes a person ineligible to continue receiving a grant if the person is convicted of the felony offenses that make the person ineligible for an initial grant as specified in Section 56.304(b).
(c) Substantially the same as House version, except refers to TP grant.
(d) Substantially the same as House version, except refers to TP grant.

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<p>a higher-level undergraduate degree.</p> <p>(d)(1) Establishes that a person makes satisfactory academic progress toward an undergraduate degree or certificate only if in the person's first academic year the person has met the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the institution at which the person is enrolled.</p> <p>(d)(2) Establishes that a person makes satisfactory progress in a subsequent academic year if: (A) the person completed at least 80 percent of the semester credit hours attempted in the student's most recent academic year; and (B) has earned an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4-point scale or the equivalent on course work previously attempted at institutions of higher education.</p>	<p>No equivalent provision.</p> <p>(c) Establishes that a person makes satisfactory academic progress if the person: (1) completed at least nine semester credit hours or 75 percent of a full course load in the person's most recent semester or term; and (2) has earned an overall GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4-point scale or the equivalent on course work previously attempted at institutions of higher education.</p>	<p>(e)(1) Same as House version.</p> <p>(e)(2) Same as Senate version, except deletes the requirement that a person have completed at least nine semester credit hours.</p>
<p>No equivalent provision.</p> <p>No equivalent provision.</p>	<p>No equivalent provision.</p> <p>No equivalent provision.</p>	<p>(f) Provides that an eligible person remains eligible for a grant if the person transfers to another institution.</p> <p>(g) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules to allow an otherwise eligible person to receive a grant while enrolled for fewer than the required number of credit hours in the event of certain hardships or good cause, including severe illness or certain family obligations.</p>
<p>Sec. 56.306. (a) Allows a person to use a grant to pay any usual and customary costs of attendance. (b) Allows an institution to disburse grant proceeds to a person only if the person's tuition and fees have been paid.</p> <p>No equivalent provision.</p>	<p>Sec. 56.306. (a) Substantially the same as House version Sections 56.306(a) and (b), except the student must either be a first semester college student or have maintained a 3.0 or greater GPA.</p> <p>(b) Requires a person to use a grant to pay for tuition, fees, or textbooks if the student maintains a GPA of 2.5 or greater but less than 3.0.</p>	<p>Sec. 56.306. Substantially the same as House version, except refers to TP.</p> <p>No equivalent provision.</p>

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Sec. 56.307. (a) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a public college or university as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in a bachelor's degree program for a semester or term at general academic institutions.	Sec. 56.307. (a) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	Sec. 56.307. (a) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(b) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a private or independent college or university as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in a bachelor's degree program for a semester or term at general academic institutions.	(b) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	(b) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(c) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a public technical institute as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in an associate degree or certificate program for a semester or term at public technical institutions.	(c) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	(c) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
(d) Sets the amount of a grant for a semester or term at a public junior college as equivalent to the amount determined by the coordinating board as the statewide average amount of tuition and required fees charged resident students enrolled full-time in a bachelor's degree program for a semester or term at public junior colleges.	(d) Substantially the same as House version, except amounts are based on the cost per semester hour.	(d) Same as House version, except refers to TP.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	(e) Authorizes the coordinating board to adopt rules allowing the board to proportionally increase or decrease a student's grant award based on the number of credit hours above or below a specified load. No equivalent provision.
(e) Provides that the amount of a grant for a part-time student is a pro rata share of the average statewide amount.	No equivalent provision.	

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- (f) Prohibits reduction of a grant amount because of any gift aid for which the student is eligible, unless the total of the grant and any gift received exceeds the recipient's attendance costs.
- (g) Requires the coordinating board to publish, by January 1 of each year, the amount of each grant for each type of institution for the following academic year.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.308. (a) Requires the coordinating board to distribute a copy of its program rules to each eligible institution and to each school district.

(b) Requires each school district to notify its students from middle school through high school and their parents of the program and its eligibility requirements in a manner that assists the district in implementing certain student performance improvement strategies. Requires each district to ensure that student transcripts or diplomas indicate completion of either recommended or advanced high school curriculum or, if a

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(e) Substantially the same as House version.

(f) Substantially the same as House version, except the latest publication date is changed to January 31; specifies that amounts are for the academic year beginning the next fall semester.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.308. (a) Substantially the same as House version.

(b) Substantially the same as House version, except it does not specify grade level of students to be notified, does not require notification of parents, does not set out requirements for the manner in which notice is to be given, and does not address districts that do not offer all of the courses required for completion of the recommended or advanced curriculum.

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(f) Same as House version, except refers to TP.

(g) Substantially the same as Senate version.

(h) Limits the total amount of awards a student may receive under certain provisions in an academic year to not more than 50 percent of the amount appropriated for a full-time student.

(i) Prohibits a public institution from charging a grant recipient tuition and fees above the grant amount or denying admission based on the person's eligibility.

(j) Allows an institution to use other sources of financial aid other than loans or Pell grants to cover the difference between the TP grant and the actual tuition and fees required.

(k) Requires the legislature's appropriations act to account for tuition and fees received under this section in a way that does not increase an institution's appropriation.

Sec. 56.308. (a) Same as House version.

(b) Substantially the same as House version, except requires notification of students' teachers and counselors; expands scope of notification content to include information about the Teach for Texas program, the need to make informed curriculum choices, and sources of information on higher education admissions and financial aid; makes conforming changes; refers to TP.

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district does not offer every course required by a curriculum, the proportion of the curriculum completed.

- (c) Requires inclusion of specified information on a student's transcript by the end of the student's junior year.
- No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.309. Authorizes the coordinating board to *solicit and accept* gifts and grants from any source for purposes of this subchapter.

No equivalent provision.

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- (c) Substantially the same as House version.

No equivalent provision.

Sec. 56.310. Same as House version, except authorizes the coordinating board only to *accept* gifts and grants; allows the legislature to appropriate funds for the program.

No equivalent provision.

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- (c) Substantially the same as House version.

- (d) Provides that a graduate of an accredited private high school is eligible only if the student's official transcript or diploma includes specified information.

Sec. 56.310. Same as Senate version, except restores authority for coordinating board to *solicit* gifts and grants.

Sec. 56.311. (a) Creates a legislative oversight committee; specifies composition. (b) Sets forth meeting requirements. (c) Authorizes the committee to request reports and information from the coordinating board. (d) Requires committee review of legislative recommendations proposed by the board. (e) Requires committee monitoring of program operation, with emphasis on manner of award of grants, number awarded, and educational progress of recipients. (f) Sets forth committee reporting requirements. (g) Requires committee report to include identification of any problem with recommended solutions for the board and legislature.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 54.064(a), Education Code, to specify that certain exemptions from out-of-state tuition and fees for nonresident scholarship students apply to students attending school on competitive academic scholarships. Adds Subsection (c) to provide an exemption to Subsection (a) for student athletes who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

No equivalent provision.

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SECTION 2. Amends Section 54.5021(c), Education Code, to make a conforming change.	SECTION 3. Substantially the same as House version.	SECTION 2. Same as House version.
No equivalent provision.	SECTION 4. Amends Section 56.033(a), Education Code, to require governing boards of public colleges and universities and of the Texas State Technical College System to set aside certain percentages of resident and nonresident students' tuition and fees for the Texas Public Education Grants Program.	No equivalent provision.
No equivalent provision.	SECTION 5. Adds Section 56.0331, Education Code, to provide temporary rates for certain of the amounts to be set aside for the Texas Public Education Grants Program. The section expires September 1, 2003.	No equivalent provision.
SECTION 3. Amends Section 56.039, Education Code, to make a conforming change.	SECTION 6. Same as House version.	SECTION 3. Same as House version.
SECTION 4. Adds Section 61.0776, Education Code. (a) Requires the coordinating board and the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, in cooperation with colleges and universities, public school counselors, representatives of student financial aid offices, and regional education service centers to develop a center for financial aid information to disseminate information about opportunities, procedures, availability, and eligibility.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 5. Adds Section 61.0776, Education Code. (a) Same as House version, except includes the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation as a consulting entity rather than as a principal subject of the requirement with the coordinating board; adds the Texas Education Agency to the list of consulting entities; and requires the center to provide information about the Teach for Texas grant program and to emphasize the importance of teaching as a profession.
(b) Requires the agencies to appoint an advisory committee.	No equivalent provision.	(b) Same as House version, except omits reference to the Texas Student Loan Corporation.
(c) Authorizes the agencies to appoint an institution to house the	No equivalent provision.	(c) Same as House version, except omits the corporation.

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center.		
(d) Requires the center to maintain a toll-free telephone line.	No equivalent provision.	(d) Same as House version.
(e) Requires the center, based on the advisory committee's recommendations, to publish information concerning financial aid opportunities and specifies distribution requirements.	No equivalent provision.	(e) Same as House version.
SECTION 5. Amends Section 11.252(a), Education Code, to require that school district improvement plans include strategies to provide students in middle school through high school with information about higher education admissions and financial aid opportunities, the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program, and the need to make informed curriculum choices.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 6. Same as House version, except requires that information strategies also target teachers, counselors, and parents and adds to the list information about the Teach for Texas grant program and about sources of information on higher education and financial aid; changes THGP to TP.
SECTION 6. Amends Section 21.451(a), Education Code, to require that minimum standards for staff development include guidelines for cooperation of principals, counselors, and teachers in providing information about higher education to students and parents. Requires staff development to address how to incorporate information about college admissions and financial aid opportunities into the curriculum, the importance of making informed curriculum choices, and sources of information on admissions and financial aid.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
SECTION 7. Amends Section 28.002, Education Code, to allow school districts to offer courses required for completion of the recommended or advanced curriculum by distance learning, provided no more than 10 percent of a curriculum is completed via distance learning programs.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.

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SENATE VERSION

CONFERENCE

SECTION 8. Amends Chapter 21, Education Code, by adding Subchapter K. Teach for Texas Program, as follows:
 Sec. 21.501. Sets out purposes of the program.
 Sec. 21.502. Defines "board" and "program."
 Sec. 21.503. Requires the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to propose implementation rules, provides a two-tier structure for the program, and requires the SBEC to propose requirements for alternative certification.
 Sec. 21.504. Requires the program to offer certain financial incentives in return for a recipient's entering into a contractual obligation to teach in a public school for a stated period after certification or special incentives to teach in an underserved area. Provides for paying incentives from appropriated funds and solicited gifts, grants, and donations. Requires the SBEC to establish criteria for awarding financial incentives.
 Sec. 21.505. Requires the SBEC, with other state agencies, to conduct a recruitment and retention campaign to promote the program. Requires that the campaign emphasize certain information.

Sec. 56.309. (a) Makes a Teach for Texas tuition grant available only to a person who receives a Texas Hope grant, applies for a grant, and enrolls as a junior or senior in a bachelor's degree program if the program is in a teaching field where the commissioner of education certifies there is a teacher shortage or if the person agrees to teach in a public school in a community certified by the commissioner as having a teacher shortage.
 (b) Requires a person to agree to teach full-time for five years in a public school in the field or community where the shortage exists to be eligible for a Teach for Texas grant.
 (c) Provides that a Teach for Texas grant amount is double the amount of certain Hope grants; authorizes a person to receive both grants.
 (d) Requires grant recipients to begin teaching and to fulfill the teaching obligation within specified time frames, unless the coordinating board grants an extension.
 (e) Requires the coordinating board to cancel an obligation for a disability or death.
 (f) Establishes a requirement for a grant recipient to sign a promissory note acknowledging the conditional nature of the grant and promising to repay the amount plus interest and fees for failure to satisfy the conditions.
 (g) Provides for a proportional repayment of the above amount based on the amount of the obligation fulfilled.
 (h) Establishes criteria for determining failure to satisfy conditions of a grant and treatment of the grant as a loan.

Sec. 56.309. Substantially the same as Senate version, except that (a) establishes that the purpose of the Teach for Texas grant program (TTGP) is to attract interested persons to the teaching profession and to support their certification as teachers; renumbers subsequent sections; refers to TP instead of THGP.

SECTION 9. Amends Section 21.004, Education Code, as follows:

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 7. Amends Section 21.004, Education Code, as follows:

HOUSE VERSION	SENATE VERSION	CONFERENCE
(a) Requires SBEC and coordinating board involvement in developing and implementing a teacher recruitment program targeting high school and undergraduate students, mid-career and retired professionals, retired military personnel, and members of underrepresented gender and ethnic groups.	No equivalent provision.	(a) Same as House version, except makes the requirement contingent on the availability of funds.
(b) Requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the SBEC, and the coordinating board to develop and distribute materials promoting the teaching profession and relevant state financial aid program opportunities; deletes a requirement that the program include a technology program.	No equivalent provision.	(b) Substantially the same as House version, except specifies that the requirement be carried out with available funds rather than with funds appropriated for the programs.
(c) Requires the coordinating board to encourage colleges and universities to incorporate into their core curricula a teacher recruitment course; makes a conforming change.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
(d) Requires the commissioner, in cooperation with the commissioner of higher education and the executive director of the SBEC, annually to identify teacher needs in subject areas, in geographic regions, and among underrepresented groups and to develop recruitment programs to address those needs; deletes a requirement that the commissioner consider the efforts of existing programs.	No equivalent provision.	(c) Same as House version.
(e) Requires the TEA, the SBEC, and the coordinating board to encourage business community-school cooperation in developing teacher recruitment programs and summer jobs for teachers; requires that the programs include programs to provide summer employment opportunities for teachers. Deletes a provision authorizing the commissioner to implement	No equivalent provision.	(d) Same as House version.

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a plan to attract talented secondary school students to the teaching profession.		
(f) Requires the TEA, the SBEC, and the coordinating board to encourage education associations to cooperate in certain long-range program development efforts.	No equivalent provision.	(e) Same as House version.
(g) Allows funds for teacher recruitment programs to be used only to publicize and implement the programs.	No equivalent provision.	(f) Same as House version.
SECTION 10. Amends Section 21.044, Education Code, to delete the requirement that the SBEC establish training requirements for entering an internship or an induction-year program.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
SECTION 11. Adds Sections 21.0441 and 21.0442, Education Code, as follows: Sec. 21.0441. Requires the SBEC to propose rules setting out guidelines for the induction of beginning teachers; specifies requirements that the guidelines must meet. Sec. 21.0442. Requires the SBEC to cooperate with and advise the coordinating board in the coordinating board's adoption of rules for educator preparation course work guidelines.	No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.
No equivalent provision.	No equivalent provision.	SECTION 8. Amends Chapter 21, Education Code, by adding Subchapter K. Teach for Texas Pilot Program Relating to Alternative Certification. Sec. 21.501. Sets forth purpose of the program. Sec. 21.502. Requires the State Board for Educator Certification to establish the program.

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SECTION 12. Adds Section 61.0514, Education Code, to require the coordinating board, with advice of the SBEC, to adopt educator preparation course work guidelines to promote integration of subject matter knowledge with classroom teaching strategies and techniques to maximize effectiveness of certification-required course work.

SECTION 13. Amends Subchapter M, Chapter 61, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 61.701. Deletes "coordinating"; changes "teachers" to "persons."

Sec. 61.702. Requires full-time employment as a classroom teacher currently and for at least one year or, alternatively, completion of a doctoral degree program not earlier than 1994 and full-time employment as a faculty member in a college or university in a Texas-Mexico border county, as an eligibility criterion for receiving student loan repayment assistance; deletes a provision authorizing repayment assistance for certain classroom teachers; makes conforming changes.

Sec. 61.703. Extends eligibility for receipt of loan repayment assistance grants from 5 to 10 years; makes a conforming change.

Sec. 61.704. Allows use of grants to pay for educational loans at private and public institutions and for graduate as well as undergraduate education; makes conforming changes.

SENATE VERSION

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

CONFERENCE

Sec. 21.503. Requires the program to provide financial incentives to program participants, sets forth requirements and conditions for the provision of incentives, and requires the board to propose rules for criteria for awarding incentives.

SECTION 9. Same as House version.

SECTION 10. Same as House version, except Section 61.707 is amended to allow the coordinating board to solicit gifts, grants, and donations; replaces a citation reference in Section 61.708(b)(2) with a description of the institutions in the reference.

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Sec. 61.705. Makes conforming changes; specifies the minimum amount of repayment assistance a person may receive in one year.

Sec. 61.706. Makes a conforming change.

Sec. 61.707. Makes a conforming change.

Sec. 61.708. Requires the coordinating board to establish minimum and maximum amounts of repayment assistance that may be received in one year; requires distribution of board rules to the personnel office of each college or university in a Texas-Mexico border county; makes conforming changes.

SECTION 14. Amends Section 151.423, Tax Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 15. Repeals Section 54.216, Education Code.

SECTION 16. Repeals Subchapter F, Chapter 56, Education Code, effective June 1, 1999.

SECTION 17. Provides for the transfer of funds appropriated or collected for certain abolished student financial aid programs to the coordinating board for the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program.

SECTION 18. Requires the coordinating board to review and study laws relating to financial aid, grant, and scholarship programs or tuition or fee waivers or exemptions and to look for and report on possible improvements to maximize benefits to the state; requires the board to recommend legislative or

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 7. Same as House version.

SECTION 8. Same as House version, except also repeals Sections 54.207 and 54.208, Education Code.

SECTION 9. Same as House version, except also repeals Subchapters G and J, Chapter 56, Education Code.

SECTION 10. Substantially the same as House version, except refers to THGP and TTGP.

No equivalent provision.

CONFERENCE

SECTION 4. Same as House version.

SECTION 11. Same as House version, except also repeals Section 54.215, Education Code.

SECTION 12. Same as Senate version, except does not repeal Subchapter J.

SECTION 13. Substantially the same as House version.

SECTION 14. Same as House version, except requires the coordinating board also to report to the presiding officer of each legislative committee charged with oversight of higher education institutions.

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administrative action.

SECTION 19. Provides for continuation of funding for individual scholarships previously awarded under Section 54.216 from the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program.

SECTION 20. Requires the coordinating board, with the commissioner of education, to study college students' performance as it relates to the completion of either the recommended or advanced high school curriculum. Specifies items to be considered in the study. Requires the board to issue a final report and recommendations. Provides that the section expires January 2, 2003.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 21. (a) Requires the coordinating board and eligible colleges and universities to award scholarships under the Texas Gateway to the Future Grant Program beginning with the 1999 fall semester.

(b) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules for awarding scholarships under the program not later than July 25, 1999.

SENATE VERSION

SECTION 11. Same as House version, except refers to "financial aid" instead of "scholarships"; refers to scholarships under Subchapter G or J, Chapter 56, Education Code, instead of Section 54.216; refers to THGP and TTGP.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 12. (a) Requires the coordinating board to award grants under the Texas Hope and Teach for Texas grant programs beginning with the 1999 fall semester.

(b) Requires the coordinating board to adopt rules for awarding scholarships under the two grant programs not later than July

CONFERENCE

SECTION 15. Substantially the same as House version, except includes reference to other financial aid received under National Guard/ROTC programs abolished in SECTION 11 repealer; refers to TP.

SECTION 16. Same as House version, except requires the board also to report to the legislative oversight committee created by this act.

SECTION 17. (a) Requires the coordinating board to review and study effects of the grant programs on enrollment to determine whether shifts between institutions have occurred and to make legislative recommendations for changes in methods for awarding grants.

(b) Requires the board to report to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and chairs of certain legislative committees.

SECTION 18. (a) Same as House version, except refers to awards under both TP and TTGP programs.

(b) Same as Senate version, except requires the coordinating board to adopt *initial* rules for TP and TTGP.

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No equivalent provision.

SECTION 22. Requires the commissioner of education to certify to the coordinating board a list of high schools not offering all courses necessary to complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school curriculum.

SECTION 23. Requires the coordinating board to adopt and distribute implementation rules not later than August 15, 2000, and requires public junior and senior colleges and universities to offer courses in accordance with those rules beginning with the 2002 fall semester.

SECTION 24. Emergency clause.

SENATE VERSION

31, 1999.

(c) Establishes certain conditions for award of a grant under the Teach for Texas grant program to a person who has not received a Texas Hope grant. Provides that this section expires September 1, 2001.

No equivalent provision.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 14. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE

(c) Substantially the same as Senate version, except refers to TTGP.

SECTION 19. Substantially the same as House version, except requires the commissioner to provide rather than certify the list and specifies *high school* curricula.

No equivalent provision.

SECTION 20. Same as House version.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 76th Regular Session

May 24, 1999

TO: Honorable Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor
Honorable James E. "Pete" Laney, Speaker of the House
FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board
IN RE: **HB713** by Cuellar (relating to student financial aid, including the consolidation or repeal of student aid and grant programs and the creation of grant programs to provide financial assistance to students at institutions of higher education who meet certain academic, citizenship, financial need, and other requirements), **Conference Committee Report**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB713, Conference Committee Report: negative impact of \$(100,000,000) through the biennium ending August 31, 2001.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

House Bill 1, the General Appropriations Act, as adopted by the Conference Committee, includes general revenue appropriations of \$100,000,000 for the 2000-01 biennium for the TEXAS and Teach for Texas Grant programs.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2000	\$(50,000,000)
2001	(50,000,000)
2002	(67,500,000)
2003	(70,700,000)
2004	(74,100,000)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 0001	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 1999
2000	\$ (50,000,000)	6.0
2001	(50,000,000)	6.0
2002	(67,500,000)	6.0
2003	(70,700,000)	6.0
2004	(74,100,000)	6.0

Technology Impact

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board would have to develop new information systems to administer these programs. The bill would require tracking of students for a number of years to insure that they complete the teaching requirement or repay the money.

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would establish the Toward EXcellence, Access, and Success (TEXAS) grant program and the Teach for Texas grant program. The TEXAS grant would provide college scholarships for students who graduated high school not earlier than the 1998-99 school year and completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum or a received an associate degree not earlier than May 1, 2001. If the student's high school did not offer the entire recommended or advanced high school curriculum, the student must have taken all the courses offered. Students would have to meet financial need requirements defined by the Coordinating Board and enroll at least three-fourths of a full course load not later than the 16th month after graduating from high school. The grants would be the average statewide amount of tuition and required fees that a resident student enrolled full-time would be charged. The grant amount would be reduced only if other gift aid for which the person is eligible exceeds the total cost of attendance. To maintain the grant, a student would have to make satisfactory academic progress toward a degree and meet the financial need requirements defined by the Coordinating Board.

A Teach for Texas grant could be double the amount of a TEXAS grant. After September 1, 2001, only college juniors or seniors who receive a TEXAS grant are eligible for a Teach for Texas grant. For fiscal years 2000 and 2001, a junior or senior who has not received a TEXAS grant, but meets all other qualifications for a Teach for Texas grant and the academic performance requirements of the TEXAS grant, could receive a Teach for Texas grant. The student would have to be in a baccalaureate degree program in a teaching field that is experiencing a critical shortage of teachers; or agree to teach in a public school that is experiencing a critical shortage of teachers. A recipient would have to teach full-time for five years to complete the obligation. A student could receive both the TEXAS grant and Teach for Texas grant. The amount of the Teach for Texas grant would be double the amount of the TEXAS grant.

The Coordinating Board would administer the programs. The total amount of the grants could not exceed the funds available for the program. Each year, the Coordinating Board would publish the amount of a scholarship for each type of institution. The Coordinating Board would distribute program rules to each eligible institution and each school district.

The bill would amend existing statute to make loan repayment assistance available to full-time faculty who received a doctoral degree after September 1, 1994 and who teach in an institution of higher education in a county that borders Mexico.

The bill would establish the Teach for Texas Pilot Program relating to Alternative Certification to be administered by the State Board for Educator Certification.

School districts would have to notify students, teachers, counselors, and parents of the scholarship program and ensure that each student's transcript or diploma indicate the high school curriculum completed by the student.

The bill would eliminate a number of existing tuition and fee exemption and scholarship programs. A portion of the revenue from repealed programs would be transferred to the Coordinating Board to fund these grant programs.

The bill would establish a Legislative Oversight Committee on the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs to monitor implementation of the programs and report to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Speaker.

The Center for Financial Aid would be established to provide information about financial aid opportunities.

Methodology

The appropriations bill provides \$100 million in funding for this program for the 2000-01 biennium.

For estimates for fiscal years 2002 and beyond, it is assumed that "financial need" is based on a percentage of students whose expected family contribution is zero. To determine the grant amount, the statewide average costs of tuition and fees at public universities, community colleges, and technical institutes were used.

Estimates of the number of students to meet the academic provisions for TEXAS grants were made based on the number of high school students expected to complete the recommended or advanced curriculum. Historical information on the rate of high school graduates enrolling and being retained in institutions of higher education was used to determine the number of students receiving scholarships. To determine the number of students eligible for the Teach for Texas program in fiscal years 2000 and 2001, historical information on the number of teachers certified from an undergraduate program were used and assumptions about how many would meet the financial eligibility and be willing to teach in the designated field or community were made.

General revenue would be necessary to cover the increase in formula funding for additional students.

Regarding the loan repayments for certain faculty with doctorates, Coordinating Board estimated 27 recipients would receive \$1,470 in repayment assistance each year.

The Coordinating Board indicates a need for one-time costs for developing systems for awarding grants and tracking students in the programs. There would be ongoing maintenance costs for these systems, as well as, additional staff needed to administer the programs and to develop a center for financial aid information.

Local Government Impact

Community colleges would experience some savings from the repeal of programs that exempt certain students from tuition and fees at these institutions.

School districts would incur some costs to fulfill the notification requirements.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JK, CT, PF, LD

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Higher Education Impact Statement

May 24, 1999

TO: Honorable Rick Perry
Lieutenant Governor
Senate
Austin, Texas

Honorable James E. "Pete" Laney
Speaker of the House

FROM: John Keel, Director

In response to your request for a Higher Education Impact Statement on HB713 (relating to student financial aid, including the consolidation or repeal of student aid and grant programs and the creation of grant programs to provide financial assistance to students at institutions of higher education who meet certain academic, citizenship, financial need, and other requirements) this office has determined the following:

No impact on the classification, mission, governance structure or establishment of an institution of higher education is anticipated from any of the provisions of this bill.

ENROLLED

H.B. No. 713

AN ACT

relating to the establishment and operation of the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program and the Teach for Texas Grant Program; consolidating and revising financial aid, grant, and scholarship programs; and providing for the education, certification, and recruitment of teachers and faculty instructors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 56, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER M. TOWARD EXCELLENCE, ACCESS, & SUCCESS (TEXAS) GRANT

PROGRAM AND TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 56.301. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(2) "Eligible institution" means:

(A) an institution of higher education; or

(B) a private or independent institution of higher education.

(3) "Private or independent institution of higher education," "public junior college," and "public technical institute" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

Sec. 56.302. PROGRAM NAME; PURPOSE. (a) The student financial assistance program authorized by this subchapter is known as the Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) grant program,

1 and an individual grant awarded under this subchapter is known as a
2 TEXAS grant.

3 (b) The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a grant of
4 money to enable eligible students to attend public and private
5 institutions of higher education in this state.

6 Sec. 56.303. ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM. (a) The
7 coordinating board shall administer the TEXAS grant program and
8 shall adopt any rules necessary to implement the TEXAS grant
9 program or this subchapter. The coordinating board shall consult
10 with the student financial aid officers of eligible institutions in
11 developing the rules.

12 (b) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to provide a
13 TEXAS grant to an eligible student enrolled in an eligible
14 institution in the most efficient manner possible.

15 (c) The total amount of TEXAS grants awarded may not exceed
16 the amount available for the program from appropriations, gifts,
17 grants, or other funds.

18 (d) In determining who should receive a TEXAS grant, the
19 coordinating board and the eligible institutions shall give highest
20 priority to awarding TEXAS grants to students who demonstrate the
21 greatest financial need.

22 Sec. 56.304. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT. (a) To be
23 eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person must:

24 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by
25 coordinating board rules;

26 (2) meet either of the following academic
27 requirements:

1 (A) be a graduate of a public or accredited
2 private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than
3 the 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or
4 advanced high school curriculum established under Section 28.002 or
5 28.025 or its equivalent; or

6 (B) have received an associate degree from an
7 eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2001;

8 (3) meet financial need requirements as defined by the
9 coordinating board;

10 (4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
11 certificate program at an eligible institution;

12 (5) be enrolled as:

13 (A) an entering undergraduate student for at
14 least three-fourths of a full course load for an entering
15 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, not
16 later than the 16th month after the date of the person's graduation
17 from high school; or

18 (B) an entering student for at least
19 three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as
20 determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month
21 after the month the person receives an associate degree from an
22 eligible institution;

23 (6) have applied for any available financial aid or
24 assistance; and

25 (7) comply with any additional nonacademic requirement
26 adopted by the coordinating board under this subchapter.

27 (b) A person is not eligible to receive a TEXAS grant if the

1 person has been convicted of a felony or an offense under Chapter
2 481, Health and Safety Code (Texas Controlled Substances Act), or
3 under the law of another jurisdiction involving a controlled
4 substance as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, unless
5 the person has met the other applicable eligibility requirements
6 under this subchapter and has:

7 (1) received a certificate of discharge by the Texas
8 Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility or
9 completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least
10 two years have elapsed from the date of the receipt or completion;
11 or

12 (2) been pardoned, had the record of the offense
13 expunged from the person's record, or otherwise has been released
14 from the resulting ineligibility to receive a grant under this
15 subchapter.

16 (c) A person is not eligible to receive a TEXAS grant if the
17 person has been granted a baccalaureate degree.

18 (d) A person may not receive a TEXAS grant for more than
19 150 semester credit hours or the equivalent.

20 (e) A person's eligibility for a TEXAS grant ends on the
21 sixth anniversary of the initial award of a TEXAS grant to the
22 person and the person's enrollment in an eligible institution.

23 (f) The requirement in Subsection (a)(2) that a person must
24 have completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum
25 does not apply to a person who:

26 (1) attended a public high school in a school district
27 if that district certifies to the commissioner of education that

1 the high school did not offer all the necessary courses for a
2 person to complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high
3 school curriculum; and

4 (2) completed all courses at the high school offered
5 toward the completion of the recommended or advanced high school
6 curriculum.

7 (g) Not later than March 1 of each year, the commissioner of
8 education shall provide to the coordinating board a list of all the
9 public high schools that do not offer all the courses necessary to
10 complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school
11 curriculum as described by Subsection (f)(1).

12 (h) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
13 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
14 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
15 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
16 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
17 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
18 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's
19 academic performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a
20 number of semester credit hours that is less than the number of
21 semester credit hours required under Subsection (a)(5). The
22 coordinating board may not allow a person to receive a TEXAS grant
23 while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

24 Sec. 56.305. CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE
25 REQUIREMENTS. (a) After initially qualifying for a TEXAS grant, a
26 person may continue to receive a TEXAS grant during each semester
27 or term in which the person is enrolled at an eligible institution

1 only if the person:

2 (1) meets financial need requirements as defined by
3 the coordinating board;

4 (2) is enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
5 certificate program at an eligible institution;

6 (3) is enrolled for at least three-fourths of a full
7 course load for an undergraduate student, as determined by the
8 coordinating board;

9 (4) makes satisfactory academic progress toward an
10 undergraduate degree or certificate; and

11 (5) complies with any additional nonacademic
12 requirement adopted by the coordinating board.

13 (b) A person is not eligible to continue to receive a TEXAS
14 grant under this section if the person has been convicted of a
15 felony or an offense under Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code
16 (Texas Controlled Substances Act), or under the law of another
17 jurisdiction involving a controlled substance as defined by Chapter
18 481, Health and Safety Code, unless the person has met the other
19 applicable eligibility requirements under this subchapter and has:

20 (1) received a certificate of discharge by the Texas
21 Department of Criminal Justice or a correctional facility or
22 completed a period of probation ordered by a court, and at least
23 two years have elapsed from the date of the receipt or completion;
24 or

25 (2) been pardoned, had the record of the offense
26 expunged from the person's record, or otherwise has been released
27 from the resulting ineligibility to receive a grant under this

1 subchapter.

2 (c) If a person fails to meet any of the requirements of
3 Subsection (a) after the completion of any semester or term, the
4 person may not receive a TEXAS grant during the next semester or
5 term in which the person enrolls. A person may become eligible to
6 receive a TEXAS grant in a subsequent semester or term if the
7 person:

8 (1) completes a semester or term during which the
9 student is not eligible for a scholarship; and

10 (2) meets all the requirements of Subsection (a).

11 (d) A person who qualifies for and subsequently receives a
12 TEXAS grant, who receives an undergraduate certificate or associate
13 degree, and who, not later than the 12th month after the month the
14 person receives the certificate or degree, enrolls in a program
15 leading to a higher-level undergraduate degree continues to be
16 eligible for a TEXAS grant to the extent other eligibility
17 requirements are met.

18 (e) For the purpose of this section, a person makes
19 satisfactory academic progress toward an undergraduate degree or
20 certificate only if:

21 (1) in the person's first academic year the person
22 meets the satisfactory academic progress requirements of the
23 institution at which the person is enrolled; and

24 (2) in a subsequent academic year, the person:

25 (A) completes at least 75 percent of the
26 semester credit hours attempted in the student's most recent
27 academic year; and

1 (B) earns an overall grade point average of at
2 least 2.5 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on coursework
3 previously attempted at institutions of higher education.

4 (f) A person who is eligible to receive a TEXAS grant
5 continues to remain eligible to receive the TEXAS grant if the
6 person enrolls in or transfers to another eligible institution.

7 (g) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
8 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
9 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
10 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
11 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
12 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
13 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's
14 academic performance, to receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in a
15 number of semester credit hours that is less than the number of
16 semester credit hours required under Subsection (a)(3). The
17 coordinating board may not allow a person to receive a TEXAS grant
18 while enrolled in fewer than six semester credit hours.

19 Sec. 56.306. GRANT USE. A person receiving a TEXAS grant
20 may use the money to pay any usual and customary cost of attendance
21 at an institution of higher education incurred by the student. The
22 institution may disburse all or part of the proceeds of a TEXAS
23 grant to an eligible person only if the tuition and required fees
24 incurred by the person at the institution have been paid.

25 Sec. 56.307. GRANT AMOUNT. (a) The amount of a TEXAS grant
26 for a semester or term for a person enrolled full-time at an
27 eligible institution other than an institution covered by

1 Subsection (b), (c), or (d) is the amount determined by the
2 coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition and
3 required fees that a resident student enrolled full-time in a
4 baccalaureate degree program would be charged for that semester or
5 term at general academic teaching institutions.

6 (b) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
7 full-time at a private or independent institution of higher
8 education is the amount determined by the coordinating board as the
9 average statewide amount of tuition and required fees that a
10 resident student enrolled full-time in a baccalaureate degree
11 program would be charged for that semester or term at general
12 academic teaching institutions.

13 (c) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
14 full-time at a public technical institute is the amount determined
15 by the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of
16 tuition and required fees that a resident student enrolled
17 full-time in an associate degree or certificate program would be
18 charged for that semester or term at public technical institutes.

19 (d) The amount of a TEXAS grant for a student enrolled
20 full-time at a public junior college is the amount determined by
21 the coordinating board as the average statewide amount of tuition
22 and required fees that a student who is a resident of the junior
23 college district and is enrolled full-time in an associate degree
24 or certificate program would be charged for that semester or term
25 at public junior colleges.

26 (e) The coordinating board may adopt rules that allow the
27 coordinating board to increase or decrease, in proportion to the

1 number of semester credit hours in which a student is enrolled, the
2 amount of a TEXAS grant award under this section to a student who
3 is enrolled in a number of semester credit hours in excess of or
4 below the number of semester credit hours described in Section
5 56.304(a)(5) or 56.305(a)(3).

6 (f) The amount of a TEXAS grant may not be reduced by any
7 gift aid for which the person receiving the grant is eligible,
8 unless the total amount of a person's grant plus any gift aid
9 received exceeds the total cost of attendance at an eligible
10 institution.

11 (g) Not later than January 31 of each year, the coordinating
12 board shall publish the amounts of each grant established by the
13 board for each type of institution for the academic year beginning
14 the next fall semester.

15 (h) The total amount of grants that a student may receive in
16 an academic year under this subchapter and under Section 61.221 may
17 not exceed the maximum amount authorized under Section 61.227.

18 (i) A public institution of higher education may not:

19 (1) charge a person attending the institution who also
20 receives a TEXAS grant an amount of tuition and required fees in
21 excess of the amount of the TEXAS grant received by the person; or

22 (2) deny admission to or enrollment in the institution
23 based on a person's eligibility to receive a TEXAS grant or a
24 person's receipt of a TEXAS grant.

25 (j) An institution may use other available sources of
26 financial aid, other than a loan or a Pell grant, to cover any
27 difference in the amount of a TEXAS grant and the actual amount of

1 tuition and required fees at the institution.

2 (k) The legislature in an appropriations act shall account
3 for tuition and required fees received under this section in a way
4 that does not increase the general revenue appropriations to that
5 institution.

6 Sec. 56.308. NOTIFICATION OF PROGRAM; RESPONSIBILITIES OF
7 SCHOOL DISTRICTS. (a) The coordinating board shall distribute to
8 each eligible institution and to each school district a copy of the
9 rules adopted under this subchapter.

10 (b) Each school district shall:

11 (1) notify its middle school students, junior high
12 school students, and high school students, those students' teachers
13 and counselors, and those students' parents of the TEXAS grant and
14 Teach for Texas grant programs established under this subchapter,
15 the eligibility requirements of each program, the need for students
16 to make informed curriculum choices to be prepared for success
17 beyond high school, and sources of information on higher education
18 admissions and financial aid in a manner that assists the district
19 in implementing a strategy adopted by the district under Section
20 11.252(a)(4); and

21 (2) ensure that each student's official transcript or
22 diploma indicates whether the student has completed or is on
23 schedule to complete:

24 (A) the recommended or advanced high school
25 curriculum required for grant eligibility under Section 28.002 or
26 28.025; or

27 (B) for a school district covered by Section

1 56.304(f)(1), the required portion of the recommended or advanced
2 high school curriculum in the manner described by Section
3 56.304(f)(2).

4 (c) The information required by Subsection (b)(2) must be
5 included on a student's transcript not later than the end of the
6 student's junior year.

7 (d) In addition to the eligibility requirements of Section
8 56.304, a person who graduated from an accredited private high
9 school is eligible to receive a grant under this subchapter only if
10 the student's official transcript or diploma includes the
11 information required as provided by Subsections (b)(2)(A) and (c).

12 Sec. 56.309. TEACH FOR TEXAS GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The purpose
13 of the Teach for Texas grant program is to attract to the teaching
14 profession persons who have expressed interest in teaching and to
15 support the certification of those persons as classroom teachers.

16 (b) A Teach for Texas tuition grant is available only to a
17 person who receives a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or 56.305,
18 applies for a Teach for Texas tuition grant, and is enrolled as a
19 junior or senior in a baccalaureate degree program if:

20 (1) the degree program is in a teaching field
21 certified by the commissioner of education as experiencing a
22 critical shortage of teachers in this state in the year in which
23 the person begins the degree program; or

24 (2) the person agrees to teach in a public school in
25 this state in a community, which is not required to be specifically
26 designated at the time the person receives the grant, certified by
27 the commissioner of education as experiencing a critical shortage

1 of teachers in any year in which the person receives a grant under
2 this section or in any subsequent year in which the person fulfills
3 the teaching obligation.

4 (c) To receive a Teach for Texas tuition grant, a person
5 must agree to teach full-time for five years at the preschool,
6 primary, or secondary level in a public school in this state in the
7 person's chosen critical field or in a community experiencing a
8 critical teacher shortage, as applicable.

9 (d) The amount of a Teach for Texas tuition grant under this
10 section is equal to two times the amount of a TEXAS grant
11 authorized under Section 56.307(b) for the same semester or term.
12 A person may receive both a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or
13 56.305 and a grant under this section for the same semester or
14 term.

15 (e) The person must begin fulfilling the teaching obligation
16 of this section not later than the 18th month after the person
17 completes the degree program and any related courses required for
18 teacher certification, unless the coordinating board grants the
19 person additional time to begin fulfilling the teaching obligation.
20 The person must complete the teaching obligation not later than the
21 sixth year after the date the person begins to fulfill the teaching
22 obligation. The coordinating board shall grant a person additional
23 time to complete the teaching obligation for good cause.

24 (f) The coordinating board shall cancel a person's teaching
25 obligation if the board determines that the person:

26 (1) has become permanently disabled so that the person
27 is not able to teach; or

1 (2) has died.

2 (g) The coordinating board shall require a person who
3 receives a Teach for Texas grant under this section to sign a
4 promissory note acknowledging the conditional nature of the grant
5 and promising to repay the amount of the grant plus applicable
6 interest and reasonable collection costs if the person does not
7 satisfy the applicable conditions. The board shall determine the
8 terms of the promissory note.

9 (h) The amount required to be repaid by a person who fails
10 to complete the teaching obligation of the person's grant shall be
11 determined in proportion to the portion of the teaching obligation
12 that the person has not satisfied.

13 (i) A person receiving a Teach for Texas tuition grant is
14 considered to have failed to satisfy the conditions of the grant,
15 and the grant automatically becomes a loan, if the person fails to
16 remain enrolled in or to make steady progress in the degree program
17 for which the grant was made without good cause as determined by
18 the coordinating board or if the person fails to become certified
19 as a teacher not later than the 18th month after the date the
20 person receives a degree.

21 Sec. 56.310. FUNDING. (a) The coordinating board may
22 solicit and accept gifts and grants from any public or private
23 source for the purposes of this subchapter.

24 (b) The legislature may appropriate money for the purposes
25 of this subchapter.

26 Sec. 56.311. LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. (a) The
27 Legislative Oversight Committee on the TEXAS and Teach for Texas

1 grant programs established by this subchapter is composed of six
2 members as follows:

3 (1) three members of the senate appointed by the
4 lieutenant governor; and

5 (2) three members of the house of representatives
6 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

7 (b) The committee shall:

8 (1) meet at least twice a year with the coordinating
9 board; and

10 (2) receive information regarding rules relating to
11 the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs established by this
12 subchapter that have been adopted by the coordinating board or
13 proposed for adoption by the coordinating board.

14 (c) The committee may request reports and other information
15 from the coordinating board relating to the operation of the TEXAS
16 and Teach for Texas grant programs under this subchapter by the
17 coordinating board.

18 (d) The committee shall review the specific recommendations
19 for legislation related to this subchapter that are proposed by the
20 coordinating board.

21 (e) The committee shall monitor the operation of the TEXAS
22 and Teach for Texas grant programs established under this
23 subchapter, with emphasis on the manner of the award of grants, the
24 number of grants awarded, and the educational progress made by
25 persons who have received grants under this subchapter.

26 (f) The committee shall file a report with the governor,
27 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives

1 not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year.

2 (g) The report shall include identification of any problems
3 in the TEXAS and Teach for Texas grant programs operated under this
4 subchapter with recommended solutions for the coordinating board
5 and for legislative action.

6 SECTION 2. Section 54.5021(c), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (c) Not later than August 31 of each fiscal year, each
9 institution of higher education that has an unobligated and
10 unexpended balance in its student deposit fund that exceeds 150
11 percent of the total deposits to that fund during that year shall
12 remit to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board the amount
13 of that excess. The coordinating board shall allocate on an
14 equitable basis amounts received under this subsection to
15 institutions of higher education that do not have an excess
16 described by this subsection for deposit in their student deposit
17 fund. The amount allocated under this subsection may be used only
18 for making grants under Subchapter M, Chapter 56 [~~scholarship~~
19 ~~awards-to-needy-and-deserving-students-under-this-section~~].

20 SECTION 3. Section 56.039, Education Code, is amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Sec. 56.039. FULL USE OF FUNDS. At the end of a fiscal
23 year, if the total amount of unencumbered funds that have been set
24 aside under this subchapter by an institution of higher education,
25 together with the total amount of unencumbered funds transferred by
26 that institution to the Coordinating Board, Texas College and
27 University System, exceeds 150 percent of the amount of funds set

1 aside by that institution in that fiscal year, the institution
2 shall transfer the excess amount to the coordinating board. The
3 coordinating board shall use funds transferred under this section
4 to award grants under Subchapter M [~~scholarships-as-provided-by-law~~
5 ~~to--students--at--institutions--other--than--the--institution--that~~
6 ~~transferred-the-funds~~].

7 SECTION 4. Section 151.423, Tax Code, is amended to read as
8 follows:

9 Sec. 151.423. REIMBURSEMENT TO TAXPAYER FOR TAX COLLECTIONS.
10 A taxpayer may deduct and withhold one-half of one percent of the
11 amount of taxes due from the taxpayer on a timely return as
12 reimbursement for the cost of collecting the taxes imposed by this
13 chapter. The comptroller shall provide a card with each form
14 distributed for the collection of taxes under this chapter. The
15 card may be inserted by the taxpayer with the tax payment to
16 provide for contribution of all or part of the reimbursement
17 provided by this section for use as grants [~~student--financial~~
18 ~~assistance---grants---offered~~] under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
19 Education Code. If the taxpayer chooses to contribute the
20 reimbursement for the [~~student~~] grants, the taxpayer shall include
21 the amount of the reimbursement contribution with the tax payment.
22 The comptroller shall transfer money contributed under this section
23 for [~~student~~] grants under Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education
24 Code, to the appropriate fund.

25 SECTION 5. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
26 amended by adding Section 61.0776 to read as follows:

27 Sec. 61.0776. CENTER FOR FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION. (a)

1 The board, in cooperation with public and private or independent
 2 institutions of higher education, the Texas Education Agency,
 3 public school counselors, representatives of student financial aid
 4 offices of any institutions, regional education service centers,
 5 and the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, shall develop a
 6 center for financial aid information. The center shall disseminate
 7 information about financial aid opportunities and procedures,
 8 including information about different types of financial aid
 9 available, eligibility requirements, and procedures for applying
 10 for financial aid. The center shall also provide information to
 11 prospective students about the Teach for Texas grant program. The
 12 information must emphasize the importance of teaching as a
 13 profession.

14 (b) To assist the board in developing information provided
 15 by the center, the board shall create and appoint an advisory
 16 committee that consists of experts in financial aid administration,
 17 public school counselors, and other persons who can provide insight
 18 into the informational needs of students.

19 (c) The board may designate an institution of higher
 20 education or other entity with appropriate facilities and
 21 resources to operate or house the center.

22 (d) The center shall maintain a toll-free telephone line
 23 that is staffed by persons knowledgeable about financial aid
 24 information in this state.

25 (e) The center shall, based on the advisory committee's
 26 recommendations, publish information concerning financial aid
 27 opportunities in this state and shall:

1 (1) furnish a written copy of the information to each
2 middle school, junior high school, and high school counselor in
3 this state; and

4 (2) post the information on an Internet website
5 accessible to the public.

6 SECTION 6. Section 11.252(a), Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) Each school district shall have a district improvement
9 plan that is developed, evaluated, and revised annually, in
10 accordance with district policy, by the superintendent with the
11 assistance of the district-level committee established under
12 Section 11.251. The purpose of the district improvement plan is to
13 guide district and campus staff in the improvement of student
14 performance for all student groups in order to attain state
15 standards in respect to the academic excellence indicators adopted
16 under Section 39.051. The district improvement plan must include
17 provisions for:

18 (1) a comprehensive needs assessment addressing
19 district student performance on the academic excellence indicators,
20 and other appropriate measures of performance, that are
21 disaggregated by all student groups served by the district,
22 including categories of ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sex, and
23 populations served by special programs;

24 (2) measurable district performance objectives for all
25 appropriate academic excellence indicators for all student
26 populations, appropriate objectives for special needs populations,
27 and other measures of student performance that may be identified

1 through the comprehensive needs assessment;

2 (3) strategies for improvement of student performance
3 that include:

4 (A) instructional methods for addressing the
5 needs of student groups not achieving their full potential;

6 (B) methods for addressing the needs of students
7 for special programs, such as suicide prevention, conflict
8 resolution, violence prevention, or dyslexia treatment programs;

9 (C) dropout reduction;

10 (D) integration of technology in instructional
11 and administrative programs;

12 (E) discipline management;

13 (F) staff development for professional staff of
14 the district;

15 (G) career education to assist students in
16 developing the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary for a
17 broad range of career opportunities; and

18 (H) accelerated education;

19 (4) strategies for providing to middle school, junior
20 high school, and high school students, those students' teachers
21 and counselors, and those students' parents information about:

22 (A) higher education admissions and financial
23 aid opportunities;

24 (B) the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for
25 Texas grant program established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56;

26 (C) the need for students to make informed
27 curriculum choices to be prepared for success beyond high school;

1 and

2 (D) sources of information on higher education
3 admissions and financial aid;

4 (5) resources needed to implement identified
5 strategies;

6 (6) [+5] staff responsible for ensuring the
7 accomplishment of each strategy;

8 (7) [+6] timelines for ongoing monitoring of the
9 implementation of each improvement strategy; and

10 (8) [+7] formative evaluation criteria for
11 determining periodically whether strategies are resulting in
12 intended improvement of student performance.

13 SECTION 7. Section 21.004, Education Code, is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 Sec. 21.004. TEACHER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM. (a) To the
16 extent that funds are available, the [The] agency, the State Board
17 for Educator Certification, and the Texas Higher Education
18 Coordinating Board shall develop and implement programs [a-program]
19 to identify talented students and recruit those students and
20 persons, including high school and undergraduate students,
21 mid-career and retired professionals, honorably discharged and
22 retired military personnel, and members of underrepresented gender
23 and ethnic groups, [those--students-for-entry] into the teaching
24 profession.

25 (b) From available funds, the agency, the State Board for
26 Educator Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
27 Board shall develop and distribute materials that emphasize the

1 importance of the teaching profession and inform individuals about
 2 state-funded loan forgiveness and tuition assistance programs [The
 3 ~~recruitment-program-must-include-a-technology-program-suitable--for~~
 4 ~~presentation-on-campus-at-high-schools-and-institutions-of-higher~~
 5 ~~education-in-this-state~~].

6 (c) [The--Texas--Higher--Education--Coordinating-Board-shall
 7 ~~cooperate-with--and--assist--the--agency--in--the--development--and~~
 8 ~~implementation-of-the-recruitment-program~~;

9 [(d)] The commissioner, in cooperation with the commissioner
 10 of higher education and the executive director of the State Board
 11 for Educator Certification, shall annually [may--coordinate--and
 12 ~~administer--a--comprehensive--program--to~~] identify the need for
 13 teachers in specific subject areas and geographic regions and among
 14 [to-encourage-members-of] underrepresented groups [to--enter--the
 15 ~~teaching-profession--in-coordinating-the-program, the commissioner~~
 16 ~~shall--consider--the--efforts--of--existing-programs-for-recruiting~~
 17 ~~minorities-into-the-teaching-profession~~]. The commissioner shall
 18 give priority to developing and implementing recruitment programs
 19 to address those needs [this--program] from the agency's
 20 discretionary funds.

21 (d) [(e)--The--commissioner--may-implement-a-plan-to-identify
 22 ~~talented-secondary-school-students--and--to--attract--them--to--the~~
 23 ~~teaching--profession--in--cooperation--with--the--commissioner, the~~
 24 ~~principal-of-each-high-school-shall-appoint-a-volunteer-teacher--as~~
 25 ~~the--teacher--recruiting--officer--for--the--school--to--assist--in~~
 26 ~~providing--information--about--the--merits--of--the--teaching-profession~~
 27 ~~and-in-identifying-and--encouraging--talented--students--to--become~~

~~teachers.---The-commissioner-may-sponsor-a-meeting-in-each-regional
education-service-center-region-of-the-teacher-recruiting--officers
from--each--high--school--in--that-area-to-provide-the-officers-the
opportunity-to-share-information-and-materials--about--the--teacher
recruitment-program-~~

[~~(f)~~] The agency, the State Board for Educator
Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
[~~commissioner~~] shall encourage the business community to cooperate
with local schools to develop recruiting programs designed to
attract and retain capable teachers, including programs to
provide[~~---The-commissioner-shall-encourage-the-business--community~~
~~to-provide~~] summer employment opportunities for teachers.

(e) [~~(g)~~] The agency, the State Board for Educator
Certification, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
[~~commissioner~~] shall encourage major education associations to
cooperate in developing a long-range program promoting teaching as
a career and to assist in identifying local activities and
resources that may be used to promote the teaching profession.

(f) [~~(h)~~] Funds received for [~~the~~] teacher recruitment
programs [~~program~~] may be used only to publicize and implement the
programs [~~program~~].

SECTION 8. Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding
Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. TEACH FOR TEXAS PILOT PROGRAM RELATING TO
ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

Sec. 21.501. PURPOSES. The purposes of the alternative
certification Teach for Texas Pilot Program are to:

1 (1) attract to the teaching profession persons who
2 have expressed interest in teaching and to support the
3 certification of those persons as teachers;

4 (2) recognize the importance of the certification
5 process governed by the State Board for Educator Certification
6 under Subchapter B, which requires verification of competence in
7 subject area and professional knowledge and skills;

8 (3) encourage the creation and expansion of educator
9 preparation programs that recognize the knowledge and skills gained
10 through previous educational and work-related experiences and that
11 are delivered in a manner that recognizes individual circumstances,
12 including the need to remain employed full-time while enrolled in
13 the Teach for Texas Pilot Program; and

14 (4) provide annual stipends to postbaccalaureate
15 teacher certification candidates.

16 Sec. 21.502. PROGRAM ESTABLISHED. The State Board for
17 Educator Certification by rule shall establish the Teach for Texas
18 Pilot Program consistent with the purposes provided by Section
19 21.501.

20 Sec. 21.503. FINANCIAL INCENTIVES. (a) The pilot program
21 must offer to participants financial incentives, including tuition
22 assistance and loan forgiveness. In offering a financial
23 incentive, the State Board for Educator Certification shall:

24 (1) require a contract between each participant who
25 accepts a financial incentive and the State Board for Educator
26 Certification under which the participant is obligated to teach in
27 a public school in this state for a stated period after

1 certification;

2 (2) provide financial incentives in proportion to the
3 length of the period the participant is obligated by contract to
4 teach after certification; and

5 (3) give special financial incentives to a participant
6 who agrees in the contract to teach in an underserved area.

7 (b) Financial incentives may be paid only from funds
8 appropriated specifically for that purpose and from gifts, grants,
9 and donations solicited or accepted by the State Board for Educator
10 Certification for that purpose.

11 (c) The State Board for Educator Certification shall
12 propose rules establishing criteria for awarding financial
13 incentives under this section, including criteria for awarding
14 financial incentives if there are more participants than funds
15 available to provide the financial incentives.

16 SECTION 9. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
17 amended by adding Section 61.0514 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 61.0514. INTEGRATED COURSEWORK. The board, with the
19 cooperation and advice of the State Board for Educator
20 Certification, shall adopt educator preparation coursework
21 guidelines that promote, to the greatest extent practicable, the
22 integration of subject matter knowledge with classroom teaching
23 strategies and techniques in order to maximize the effectiveness
24 and efficiency of coursework required for certification under
25 Subchapter B, Chapter 21.

26 SECTION 10. Subchapter M, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
27 amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER M. REPAYMENT OF CERTAIN
TEACHER AND FACULTY EDUCATION LOANS

Sec. 61.701. REPAYMENT AUTHORIZED. The [coordinating] board may provide, in accordance with this subchapter and board rules, assistance in the repayment of student loans for persons [teachers] who apply and qualify for the assistance.

Sec. 61.702. ELIGIBILITY. [†a] To be eligible to receive repayment assistance, a person [teacher] must[†

[††] apply to the [coordinating] board[†] and must have:

(1) [†2]--have] completed at least one year of employment as and be employed as a full-time classroom teacher in the elementary or secondary schools of this state in an area or field of acute teacher shortage as designated by the State Board of Education; or

(2) received a doctoral degree not earlier than September 1, 1994, from a public or private institution of higher education accredited as required by the board and be employed as a full-time faculty member with instructional duties in an institution of higher education located in a county that borders the United Mexican States.

[†b]--The--coordinating--board--may--provide--by---rule---for repayment--assistance--on--a--pro--rata-basis-for-teachers-employed part-time-in-an-elementary-or-secondary-school-of-this-state-in--an area--or-field-of-acute-teacher-shortage-as-designated-by-the-State Board-of-Education.]

Sec. 61.703. LIMITATION. A person [teacher] may not receive

1 repayment assistance grants for more than 10 [~~five~~] years.

2 Sec. 61.704. ELIGIBLE LOANS. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board
3 may provide repayment assistance for the repayment of any student
4 loan for education at a public or private [~~an~~] institution of
5 higher education, including loans for undergraduate and graduate
6 education, received by a person [~~teacher~~] through any lender.

7 (b) The [~~coordinating~~] board may not provide repayment
8 assistance for a student loan that is in default at the time of the
9 person's [~~teacher's~~] application.

10 Sec. 61.705. REPAYMENT. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall
11 deliver any repayment made under this subchapter in a lump sum
12 payable to the lender and the person [~~teacher~~], in accordance with
13 federal law.

14 (b) A repayment made under this subchapter may be applied to
15 the principal amount of the loan and to interest that accrues.

16 (c) The minimum amount of repayment assistance that may be
17 received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(2) is
18 50 percent of the amount of principal and accrued interest that is
19 due that year.

20 Sec. 61.706. ADVISORY COMMITTEES. The [~~coordinating~~] board
21 may appoint advisory committees from outside the board's membership
22 to assist the board in performing its duties under this subchapter.

23 Sec. 61.707. ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS. The [~~coordinating~~] board
24 may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations for the
25 purposes of this subchapter.

26 Sec. 61.708. RULES. (a) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall
27 adopt rules necessary for the administration of this subchapter,

including:

(1) a rule that sets a minimum or maximum amount of repayment assistance that may be received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(1); and

(2) a rule that sets a maximum amount of repayment assistance that may be received in one year by a person described by Section 61.702(2) [teacher-in-one-year].

(b) The [~~coordinating~~] board shall distribute a copy of the rules adopted under this section and pertinent information in this subchapter to:

(1) each institution of higher education that offers a teacher education program;

(2) the personnel office at each institution of higher education located in a county that borders the United Mexican States;

(3) any other appropriate state agency; and

(4) [~~+~~3] any appropriate professional association.

SECTION 11. (a) This section may be cited as the Steven Gonzales-Prisoner of War Higher Education Act.

(b) Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.219 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.219. PRISONERS OF WAR. (a) In this section, "tuition and required fees" includes tuition, service fees, lab fees, building use fees, and all other required fees except room, board, or clothing fees or deposits in the nature of security for the return or proper care of property.

(b) For each semester or summer session and for a total

1 number of semester credit hours not to exceed 120, the governing
2 body of each institution of higher education shall exempt from the
3 payment of tuition and required fees any person who:

4 (1) is a resident of Texas and was a resident of Texas
5 at the time of the person's original entry into the United States
6 armed forces;

7 (2) was first classified as a prisoner of war by the
8 United States Department of Defense on or after January 1, 1999;
9 and

10 (3) is enrolled for at least 12 semester credit hours.

11 (c) For each semester or session in which a person receives
12 an exemption from tuition and required fees under Subsection (b),
13 the governing body of the institution the person attends shall
14 exempt the person from the payment of fees and charges for lodging
15 and board if the person resides on the campus of the institution.
16 If the person does not reside on the campus of the institution, the
17 institution shall provide to the person a reasonable stipend to
18 cover the costs of the person's lodging and board.

19 (d) For each semester or session in which a person receives
20 an exemption from tuition and required fees under Subsection (b),
21 the governing body of the institution the person attends shall
22 award to the person a scholarship to cover the costs of books and
23 similar educational materials required for course work at the
24 institution.

25 (e) An institution may use any available revenue, including
26 legislative appropriations, and shall solicit and accept gifts,
27 grants, and donations for the purposes of this section. The

1 institution shall use gifts, grants, and donations received for the
2 purposes of this section before using any other revenue.

3 (c) This section applies beginning with the 1999 fall
4 semester.

5 SECTION 12. Sections 54.215 and 54.216, Education Code, are
6 repealed.

7 SECTION 13. Subchapters F and G, Chapter 56, Education Code,
8 are repealed effective June 1, 1999.

9 SECTION 14. Any money appropriated to or collected for a
10 program abolished under Section 12 or 13 of this Act or that exists
11 in any account to support a program abolished under Section 12 or
12 13 of this Act, including the Texas New Horizons Scholarship Trust
13 Fund, is transferred to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
14 Board for use in the TEXAS Grant Program.

15 SECTION 15. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
16 Board shall review and study the laws relating to student financial
17 aid, grant, and scholarship programs and tuition and fee waivers or
18 exemptions. The study shall describe improvements that may be made
19 to existing programs to maximize the benefit of the programs to the
20 state and its students and shall include recommendations for
21 legislative or administrative action that may be taken to
22 consolidate, expand, or otherwise modify existing programs or
23 create new programs.

24 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
25 report its activities and findings to the governor, the lieutenant
26 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
27 presiding officer of each legislative committee charged with the

oversight of higher education institutions not later than December 1, 2000.

SECTION 16. A person receiving a scholarship or other financial assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216, Education Code, or Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, on the effective date of this Act may continue to receive a scholarship or other financial assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216 or under Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, as applicable to the person on the effective date, until the person is no longer eligible for the scholarship or other assistance under Section 54.215 or 54.216, Education Code, or Subchapter G, Chapter 56, Education Code, as the applicable section or subchapter exists on January 1, 1999. The costs of the scholarships or other financial assistance authorized under this section shall be covered by the TEXAS grant program established by Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 17. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in conjunction with the commissioner of education, shall conduct a study relating to the performance of students at institutions of higher education as that performance relates to whether a student completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum.

(b) The board shall include in the study consideration of:

(1) the number of schools that offered all or part of the recommended or advanced high school curriculum;

(2) the types and number of students who completed the recommended or advanced high school curriculum; and

1 (3) the effect, if any, of the method that a school
2 district uses to present or deliver any portion of the recommended
3 or advanced high school curriculum to its students.

4 (c) Not later than January 1, 2003, the board shall issue a
5 final report describing the findings of the study conducted under
6 this section and any recommendations for legislation or
7 administrative action to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker
8 of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of each
9 legislative committee charged with the oversight of primary and
10 secondary education or higher education, and the legislative
11 oversight committee established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
12 Education Code, as added by this Act. The board may issue
13 preliminary reports related to the study at any time.

14 (d) This section expires January 2, 2003.

15 SECTION 18. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
16 Board shall review and study the effect of the TEXAS grant program
17 and the Teach for Texas grant program established by Subchapter M,
18 Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act, on enrollments at
19 institutions of higher education. The study shall determine
20 whether there have been shifts in enrollments between universities
21 and community colleges and whether those shifts were caused by the
22 different grant amounts awarded to students at each institution.
23 The report shall make recommendations for legislative changes to
24 the methodology for calculating the amount of the grant awards, if
25 needed.

26 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
27 report its findings to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the

1 speaker of the house of representatives, the presiding officer of
2 each legislative committee with oversight responsibilities for
3 higher education institutions, and the legislative oversight
4 committee established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education
5 Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 1, 2000.

6 SECTION 19. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating
7 Board and the eligible institutions of higher education shall award
8 scholarships under the TEXAS grant program and the Teach for Texas
9 grant program established under Subchapter M, Chapter 56,
10 Education Code, as added by this Act, beginning with the 1999 fall
11 semester.

12 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
13 adopt the initial rules for awarding grants under the TEXAS grant
14 program and the Teach for Texas grant program established under
15 Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, as added by this Act, not
16 later than July 31, 1999.

17 (c) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may award
18 a grant under the Teach for Texas Grant Program to a person who has
19 not received a TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 or 56.305,
20 Education Code, as added by this Act, if the person meets all the
21 other qualifications for the award of a Teach for Texas tuition
22 grant under Section 56.309, Education Code, as added by this Act,
23 and the requirements for a TEXAS grant under Sections 56.304 and
24 56.305, Education Code, except for requirements of Sections
25 56.304(a)(2) and (5), Education Code, as added by this Act. This
26 subsection expires September 1, 2001.

27 SECTION 20. The commissioner of education shall provide to

1 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board a list of all of the
2 public high schools that do not offer all the courses necessary to
3 complete all parts of the recommended or advanced high school
4 curriculum or its equivalent as required by Section 56.304(f)(1),
5 Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than July 31, 1999.

6 SECTION 21. The importance of this legislation and the
7 crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an
8 emergency and an imperative public necessity that the
9 constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several
10 days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended,
11 and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its
12 passage, and it is so enacted.

H.B. No. 713

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 713 was passed by the House on April 22, 1999, by a non-record vote; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 713 on May 8, 1999, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 713 on May 29, 1999, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 2, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

H.B. No. 713

I certify that H.B. No. 713 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 6, 1999, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 713 on May 30, 1999, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor

76TH LEGISLATURE

COAUTHOR AUTHORIZATION

(please request your coauthors to sign this form in lieu of the front or the back of the original bill)

For chief clerk use only

Bill or Resolution Number: HB 713

Henry Cuellar
signature of primary author

Henry Cuellar
printed name of primary author

1/18/99
Date

PERMISSION TO SIGN HB 713 HAS BEEN GIVEN TO (check only one of the following):
(bill or resolution #)

☒ ALL REPRESENTATIVES

☐ THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIVE(S): _____

I authorize the Chief Clerk to include my name as a coauthor of the legislation indicated above:

<u>Ally</u> A2120 Alexander Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2600 Counts Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2795 Farabee Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Allen</u> A2115 Allen Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2605 Crabb Date <u>11/11/99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2810 Farrar Date <u>11/11/99</u>
<u>Alvarado</u> A2105 Alvarado Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2610 Craddick Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2840 Flores Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Averitt</u> A2135 Averitt Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2615 Crownover Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2920 Gallego Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Bailey</u> A2160 Bailey Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2645 Cuellar Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2930 Garcia Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Berman</u> A2205 Berman Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2635 Culberson Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2940 George Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Bonnen</u> A2250 Bonnen Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2670 Danburg Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2935 Giddings Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Bosse</u> A2275 Bosse Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2620 Davis, John Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2880 Glaze Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Brimer</u> A2260 Brimer Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2625 Davis, Yvonne Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2985 Goodman Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Brown, Betty</u> A2265 Brown, Betty Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2680 Delisi Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2990 Goolsby Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Brown, Fred</u> A2270 Brown, Fred Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3385 Denny Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3005 Gray Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Burnam</u> A2255 Burnam Date <u>4-7-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2690 Deshotel Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3000 Green Date <u>4-7-99</u>
<u>Capelo</u> A2300 Capelo Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2805 Driver Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3010 Greenberg Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Carter</u> A2400 Carter Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2665 Dukes Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3020 Gusev Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Chavez</u> A2585 Chavez Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2660 Dunn Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3030 Gutierrez Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Chisum</u> A2480 Chisum Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2650 Euton Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3035 Haggerty Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Christian</u> A2525 Christian Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2770 Edwards Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2695 Harbick Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Clark</u> A2520 Clark Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2760 Ehrhardt Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3160 Hardcastle Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Colman</u> A2435 Colman Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2775 Eiland Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3170 Hartnett Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Cook</u> A2565 Cook Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2785 Elkins Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3345 Hawley Date <u>4-6-99</u>
<u>Corte</u> A2595 Corte Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A2790 Ellis, Dan Date <u>4-6-99</u>	<u>David C Farah</u> A3180 Heflin Date <u>4-6-99</u>

A3310 Hilbert	Date	A3715 Madden	Date	A4435 Shields	Date
A3250 Hilderbran	Date	A3760 Marchant	Date	A4445 Siebert	Date
A3275 Hill	Date	A2700 Maxey	Date	A4525 Smith	Date
A3270 Hinojos	Date	A3665 McCall	Date	A4530 Smith	Date
A3305 Hochberg	Date	A3650 McClendon	Date	A4550 Solis, Jim	Date
A3290 Hodge	Date	A3845 McReynolds	Date	A4560 Solis, Juan	Date
A3325 Homer	Date	A3840 Merritt	Date	A4505 Solomons	Date
A3320 Hope	Date	A3855 Moreno, Joe	Date	A4515 Staples	Date
A3315 Howard	Date	A3860 Moreno, Paul	Date	A4570 Swinford	Date
A3355 Hunter	Date	A3870 Morrison	Date	A4585 Talton	Date
A3360 Hupp	Date	A3865 Mower	Date	A4605 Telford	Date
A3375 Isett	Date	A3885 Naishtat	Date	A4630 Thompson	Date
A3415 Janek	Date	A3890 Najera	Date	A4635 Tillery	Date
A3410 Jones, Charles	Date	A3895 Nixon, Joe	Date	A4650 Truitt	Date
A3405 Jones, Delwin	Date	A3900 Noriega	Date	A2730 Turner, Bob	Date
A3400 Jones, Jesse	Date	A3880 Oliveira	Date	A4625 Turner, Sylvester	Date
A3440 Junell	Date	A3885 Olivo	Date	A4690 Uher	Date
A3475 Keel	Date	A4010 Palmer	Date	A4695 Uresti	Date
A3480 Kayer	Date	A4180 Pickett	Date	A4720 Van de Putte	Date
A3470 King, Phil	Date	A4185 Pitts	Date	A4990 Walker	Date
A3465 King, Tracy	Date	A4200 Puente	Date	A4995 West, George "Buddy"	Date
A3485 Krusee	Date	A4210 Ramsay	Date	A5035 Williams	Date
A3450 Kuempel	Date	A4240 Rangel	Date	A5000 Wilson	Date
A3510 Laney	Date	A4245 Reyna, Arthur	Date	A5020 Wise	Date
A3520 Lengefeld	Date	A4236 Reyna, Elvira	Date	A5015 Wohlgenuth	Date
A3605 Lewis, Glenn	Date	A4250 Ritter	Date	A4980 Wolens	Date
A3600 Lewis, Ron	Date	A4370 Sadler	Date	A5005 Woolley	Date
A3615 Longoria	Date	A4380 Salinas	Date	A5025 Yarbrough	Date
A3620 Luna, Vilma	Date	A4420 Seaman	Date	A5040 Zbraneck	Date

JOINT AUTHOR AUTHORIZATION

As primary author of HB 713 I hereby authorize the following joint author(s):
(bill or resolution #)

Irna RANGEL
printed name of joint author #1

Irna Rangel
signature of joint author #1

Jaime Capelo
printed name of joint author #2

[Signature]
signature of joint author #2

Carlos Uresti
printed name of joint author #3

[Signature]
signature of joint author #3

FRED BROWN
printed name of joint author #4

Fred Brown
signature of joint author #4

[Signature]
signature of primary author

1/25/99
date

ORIGINAL FORM--Place in book

SEND COPIES TO:
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Legislative Reference Library
House Journal

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 713⁽¹⁾ was passed by the House on

April 22⁽²⁾, 1999, by a non-record vote;

that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 713
on May 8⁽³⁾, 1999, and requested the

appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences

between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference

committee report on H.B. No. 713 on May 29⁽⁴⁾, 1999, by

the following vote: Yeas 142⁽⁵⁾, Nays 2, 1 present, not voting⁽⁶⁾.

Chief Clerk of the House

**** Preparation: CT75;

I certify that H.B. No. 713⁽¹⁾ was passed by the Senate, with

amendments, on May 6⁽²⁾, 1999, by the following

vote: Yeas 30⁽³⁾, Nays 0⁽⁴⁾;

at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference

committee to consider the differences between the two houses;

and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on

H.B. No. 713 on May 30⁽⁵⁾, 1999, by the following vote:

Yeas 30⁽⁶⁾, Nays 0⁽⁷⁾.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

Date

Governor

**** Preparation: CT44;

H.B. No. 713

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

By By Smalls

Relating to the consolidation, modification, or repeal of student financial aid, grant, and scholarship programs or tuition and fee waivers and the creation of the Texas Gateway to the Future Scholarship. . .

JAN 18 1999 Filed with the Chief Clerk

FEB 08 1999 Read first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education

MAR - 2 1999 Reported favorably (~~as amended~~)
(as substituted)

MAR 09 1999 Sent to Committee on (Calendars)
(~~Local & General Calendars~~)

APR 21 1999 Read second time (comm. subst.) (amended); passed to third reading (~~failed~~) by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of yeas, nays, present, not voting)

Constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days suspended (failed to suspend)
by a vote of yeas, nays, present, not voting

APR 22 1999 Read third time (amended); finally passed (~~failed to pass~~) by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of yeas, nays, present, not voting)

APR 23 1999 Engrossed

APR 23 1999 Sent to Senate

Sharon Carter

CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE

OTHER HOUSE ACTION:

APR 23 1999 Received from the House

APR 26 1999 Read and referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Reported favorably

MAY 03 1999 Reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute; Committee Substitute read first time

Ordered not printed

Laid before the Senate

MAY 06 1999 Senate and Constitutional Rules to permit consideration suspended by (unanimous consent)
(yeas, nays)

MAY 06 1999 Read second time, amended, and passed to third reading by (unanimous consent)
(a viva voce vote)
(yeas, nays)

MAY 06 1999 Senate and Constitutional 3 Day Rules suspended by a vote of 30 yeas, 0 nays

MAY 06 1999 Read third time, amended, and passed by (a viva voce vote)
(30 yeas, 0 nays)

May 6, 1999 Returned to the House

Betty King
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

OTHER SENATE ACTION:

MAY 06 1999

Returned from the Senate (as substituted)
(with amendments)

House concurred in Senate amendments by a (non-record vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

MAY 08 1999

House refused to concur in Senate amendments and requested the appointment of a conference committee
by a (non-record vote) (~~record vote of~~ _____ yeas, _____ nays, _____ present, not voting)

MAY 08 1999

House conferees appointed: CUELLAR, Chair; RANGE,
JUNELL, BROWN, FRED, JESSE JONES

MAY 11, 1999

Senate granted House request. Senate conferees appointed: ELLS, Chair;
BIVINS, WEST, WENTWORTH, ZAFFARINI

MAY 29 1999

Conference committee report adopted (~~rejected~~) by the House by a (~~record vote~~)
(record vote of 142 yeas, 2 nays, 1 present, not voting)

Conference committee report adopted (rejected) by the Senate by a (viva voce vote)
(record vote of _____ yeas, _____ nays)

MAY 27 1999 - Reomitted back to conference committee.

99 MAY -6 PM 4:11

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

99 MAR -8 PM 10:08

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES